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Some morphological and syntactic differences between
British and American English in newspaper language

Vybrané morfologické a syntaktické rozdíly mezi britskou
a americkou angličtinou v jazyce novin

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Autor:

Bc. Pavlína Pyšná

Podpis:

Vedoucí práce:

PhDr. Marcela Malá, M.A., Ph.D.

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Osobní číslo: P11000672
Studijní program: N7503 Učitelství pro základní školy
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doc. RNDr. Miroslav Brzezina, CSc.
děkan

L.S.



PhDr. Marcela Malá, M.A., Ph.D.
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Název práce: Some morphological and syntactic differences
between British and American English in
newspaper language

Jméno a příjmení autora: Bc. Pavlína Pyšná

Osobní číslo: P11000672

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Anotace

Tato diplomová práce se zabývá některými morfologickými a syntaktickými rozdíly mezi britskou a americkou angličtinou v jazyce novin. Cílem práce je zjistit, zda se celosvětový vliv americké angličtiny podepsal i na jazyce novin ve Velké Británii. Pro potvrzení nebo vyvrácení hypotézy byly zvoleny tři okruhy zájmu, a to: pravopis, použití minulého času prostého místo přítomného času předpřítomného a konjunktiv. Výsledky přinesly pouze několik příkladů standardu americké angličtiny v britských novinách a standardu britské angličtiny v amerických novinách. Jelikož byl výzkum proveden pouze v malém měřítku, výsledky jsou pouze orientační.

Klíčová slova: jazyk novin, britská angličtina, americká angličtina, pravopis, minulý čas, předpřítomný čas, konjunktiv.

Abstract

The diploma thesis studies some morphological and syntactic differences between British and American English in the language of newspapers. The aim of the study is to ascertain whether the worldwide influence of American English can be seen even in the British newspapers. Three areas of research are chosen to either confirm or confute this hypothesis. They are as follows: the spelling, the use of the past tense instead of the present perfect tense and the subjunctive mood.

The research indicated just some examples of the typical American national standard in the British newspapers and the typical British national standard in the American newspapers. This small-scale research provides only tentative results.

Key words: newspaper language, British English, American English, spelling, past tense, present perfect tense, subjunctive mood.

Anotation

Ce travail de diplôme porte sur certaines différences morphologiques et syntactiques entre l'anglais britannique et américain dans le langage de journal. Le but de ce travail est de découvrir l'influence globale d'anglais américain dans le langage utilisé dans les journaux au Royaume-Uni. Pour confirmer ou infirmer cette hypothèse, on a choisi trois champs d'observation: la grammaire, utilisation du temps passé simple au lieu de avant-présent et la subjonctif. Les résultats ne montrent que certains phénomènes d'anglais américain apparaissant dans les journaux en Grande Bretagne. Considérant l'étendue de la recherche on doit constater que les résultats ne montrent pas toutes les phénomènes.

Mots clés: langage de journaux, anglais britannique, anglais américain, grammaire, temps passé, temps avant-présent, subjonctif.

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1 Introduction

This research deals with some morphological and syntactic differences between British and American English in newspaper language. The reason for choosing this topic is that some linguists (Quirk, Swan) agree that American English influences British English in several aspects, such as the use of the past simple tense instead of the present perfect tense or the use of the mandative subjunctive instead of putative should, which is considered typically British. Therefore, the aim of this study is to ascertain whether American English influences even the language of the British newspapers.

The theoretical part will present the different types of news and their usual structure alongside with the brief presentation of the British and American newspapers which were chosen for this study. Further, it explores the language of journalism, where there are parts devoted to the different language used by broadsheets and tabloids and also the specific language of headlines. The theory ends with the description of two main subcategories of the English language, British and American English, and some of the differences between them.

Three key features are chosen for the purpose of this study. They are as follows: the spelling, the use of the past simple tense instead of the present perfect tense and the subjunctive mood. The results of the research may show whether there is a possible influence of American English on British English, or whether it is the other way around, whether British English affects American English.

2 Newspapers

Conboy (2007) divides the newspapers into two main categories depending on the language style that the journalists use, those are the broadsheets and tabloid newspapers. Broadsheets are also referred to as the elite newspapers, and Bell (1991) uses the term quality newspapers (12). Tabloids are often called the popular newspapers. One of the differences between these two types of newspapers is their size. Broadsheets are bigger than the tabloids, which have the compact size. However, lately many broadsheets have changed to a tabloid format but still trying to keep their traditional features (10).

Nowadays, the main difference is the language style that both types of newspapers use. Conboy (2007) believes that every newspaper has a very specific and constant lexicon, which uses to provide its angle of a story. The linguistic style remains the same, just as the audience of the newspaper (10). This issue will be further discussed in the next chapter.

According to Bell (1991) the content of the newspapers differs from one newspaper to another. Some of them are: the news, letters to the editor, display advertising, documentaries, soap operas, music or sports commentary. Basically everything other than advertising in the newspapers is called “editorial” (13).

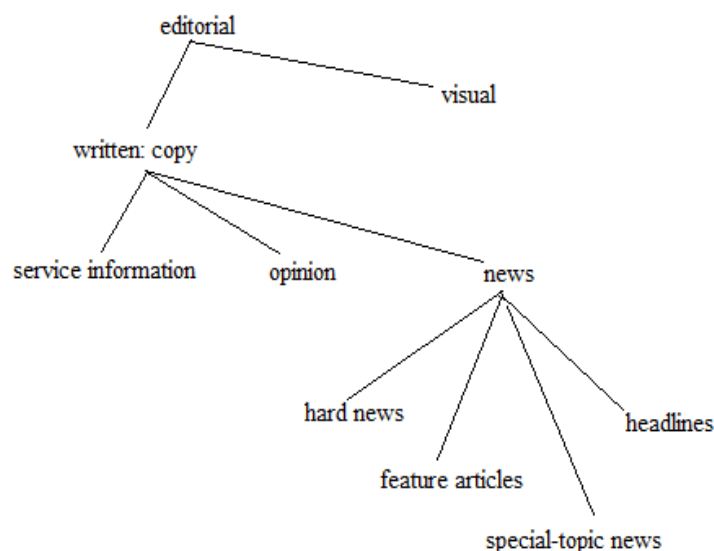


Figure 1 Editorial (Bell, 1991, 14)

Editorial can be divided into a written copy and a visual, which includes the cartoons or graphs. The editorial copy consists of three broad categories: the service information, opinion and news. The service information is usually not the continuous text but rather a list of information, such as the sports results, television programmes, weather forecast or the share prices. Opinion is the part of the newspapers where are the statements and views of the newspaper's journalists, for instance the editorials or leaders. The rest of the opinion copy includes the regular columns, letters to the editor and reviews. The last category contains the hard news, feature articles, special topic news and headlines.

2.1 Types of news

Bell (1991) divides the genre of press news into four categories: the hard news, feature articles, special-topic news and headlines. Hard news focuses on the reports of accidents, crimes or announcements. The unscheduled events, like disasters or fires, Bell (1991) calls the spot news (14). Jottini (2002) adds that the hard news

merges the concept of seriousness and timeliness and informs the reader about what happened, why it happened and how it will affect them. The important characterisation of the hard news is their occurrence in the last 24 hours – their value is very little after 24-48 hours (1). White (1997) goes further and divides the hard news into two more sub-types: Event stories and Issues reports. The Event story portrays what happened in some action or incident – usually accidents, natural disasters, acts of violence or crimes. The Issues report, on the other hand, is communicatively-based and describes items like criticism, accusations, demands, warning, discoveries or public debates (1-2).

Opposite to the hard news is the soft news, which is characterised by Jottini (2002) as a story that can be published any day without affecting its newsworthiness – they are not time-bound – such as news about people, places or communities problems (1). Bell (1991) presents his second category of the news, the feature articles, as the best example of the soft news. Features are usually longer articles providing background and sometimes even the author's opinion; moreover, they are by-lined with the writer's name. Special-topic news, the third category, includes sports, racing, business, agriculture or computers, and they typically have their own sections. The first three categories were concerned with the body-copy and the fourth deals with the headlines, the crossheads, which are subheadings within a story, the writer's name or the captions to the photographs (14-15).

2.2 Structure of a news story

White (1997) states that the structure of news stories can be divided into two phases: an opening nucleus and subsequent development stage. The opening nucleus contains the text's most important information and includes the headline and the lead, which is usually in bold font, elaborates the headline and contains the main idea of the news story (9). Jottini (2002) specifies that the lead should give some or all of the 5 W's – who?, what?, where?, when? and why/how? (1).

Jottini (2002) does not operate with the term opening nucleus but only with the nucleus and adds a wrap-up, the optional paragraph which indicates a resolution; nevertheless, it is not a conclusion of the story. The second part is by Jottini (2002) called the radiating satellites, which form the body of the story. Satellites may reformulate the information given in the nucleus, add information to it and provide the causes and the conditions; still, their essential role is to answer the 5 W's (2). According to White (1997) their primary function is to refer back to the headline or lead through a series of specifications, which he divides into a five sub-components (12).

The first one is the elaboration where one or more sentences provide an exemplification of information mentioned in the headline/lead. Cause-and-Effect, the second sub-component, describes the causes, reasons or consequences of the crisis point presented in the headline. Justification offers the reasoning that supports the claim in the headline. Contextualisation puts the message into a temporal, spatial or social context, such as the description of geographical setting. The last sub-component is an appraisal in which usually an external source is asked to value the elements of the headline and the lead (13).

2.3 British and American newspapers

As it has already been said before, newspapers are divided into two big groups – broadsheets and tabloids. Jottini (2002) specifies that the tabloids tend to use much bigger headlines typed in bold and sometimes across the whole page, they use photos (usually in colour), their stories are shorter and about unimportant events, and they focus more on the people than on the story itself. Broadsheets; on the other hand, provide long articles full of details about the national and international events, photos are small and even though front page headlines might be an exception, the headlines are smaller and so as the print (7).

Jottini (2002) also states that most of the newspapers in Great Britain express their political view; therefore, they are either a right wing or a left wing. Among the right wing broadsheet newspapers are The Times, which is the oldest newspaper, Sunday Times or The Daily Telegraph. The Sun, Daily Express and Daily Mail are examples of the right wing tabloids in Great Britain. Slightly left wing broadsheets are The Observer and The Guardian and the left wing tabloids are Daily Mirror or Sunday Mirror. There are also broadsheets which do not lean to one or the other side and those are neutral newspapers, for instance The Independent or Financial Times (7). For this study, three British broadsheets were chosen (The Daily Telegraph, The Guardian, The Independent), each with a different political view.

The Daily Telegraph was first published on 29th June in 1855 in London. Joseph M. Levy, the owner, wanted to produce the best selling and at the same time the cheapest newspaper in the world. After a few months The Daily Telegraph sold more copies than The Times, the most circulated newspaper of that time. The Daily Telegraph was originally considered a left-wing newspaper, but by the end

of the 19th century it shifted towards the conservative opinions. Since then, it maintains its right-wing position in the politics (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2013).

The Guardian began to circulate in the year 1821 in Manchester. The Guardian was originally published only on Wednesdays and Saturdays; nevertheless, it became a daily newspaper in the year 1855. In the second half of the 20th century The Guardian was in financial trouble, and it almost merged together with The Times. New editor, Alastair Hetherington, prevented the merge and under his leadership the newspaper began to profit again (The Guardian, 2013).

The Independent is the youngest of the British daily newspapers. It was founded by former members of The Daily Telegraph in January 1986 in order to create a newspaper without strong political view. The Independent is praised for its work with artistic photographs, its innovative use of graphic and for clearly stated article sources (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2013).

American newspapers also express a political view through their articles. In the United States there are liberal and conservative newspapers. The Washington Times, New York Post or Wall Street Journal are the examples of the conservative newspapers and New York Times, Washington Post and Chicago Tribune express the liberal view. The third group, which does not state any specific political view, is the centrist newspaper, USA Today for instance (Iris, 2012). In the United States of America there are more than 1500 daily newspapers; most of them are usually sold in only one part of the country. Newspapers that are sold nearly in all parts of the USA are USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times or the Washington Post (9). For this study, three American broadsheets were chosen

(The Washington Times, The Washington Post, The USA Today), each representing a different political view.

The Washington Times was established in 1982 in the capital of the United States. It is well known for its investigative reporting and the conservative view on the countries politics. The Washington Times also provides an online version of their daily newspaper (The Washington Times, 2013).

The Washington Post was founded by the Democratic Party in 1877. It is considered to be one of the greatest newspapers in the United States. A decade after its first appearance, the newspaper abandoned the Democratic Party and began to grow. The Washington Post won a Pulitzer Prize on a number of occasions, but the first one was for the coverage of Watergate Affair in the year 1973 (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2013).

The USA Today was the first newspaper of its kind – targeting at the general interests of people. It was first published in 1982, and by the next year, it attained one million copies in circulation. Through the years it gained its reputation for higher quality and experienced growth. Other newspapers were influenced by The USA Today's use of colourful graphics and a orientation on sports and celebrity (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2013).

3 The language of journalism

Conboy (2007) believes that: “The news, in both its elite and popular forms, is extremely important in helping us to build up a normative view of the world and set parameters for how we interact with that world.” (4). In other words, he sees the language as an extremely influential tool which shapes the way that we perceive the world around us. He actually says that “language does not merely reflect the world as it is, it interprets, organizes and classifies that world.” (4). Bell (1991) points out that people who live in Western countries do not come around with as much language in a face-to-face conversation as from the news (6). If it is true, it even stresses the importance of the language.

The language plays an essential role in what Conboy (2007) refers to as the “social construction of reality” (5), where the type of the language creates a certain image but also where the type of the language has to vary depending on the social and cultural demands. Conboy (2007) states that the early newspapers’ language tried to be as accurate as possible when providing factual and reliable information in order to distinguish itself from other types of printed materials, for example pamphlets. The existence of newspaper language does not come naturally, there are certain ideological implications attached to them.

For broadsheets it is mainly the concept of objectivity which is connected with the reliability of sources, the minimum use of pronoun *I* and the lack of emotive vocabulary in the news reporting. Contrary to broadsheets, tabloids tend to use many emotional words in order to intensify the reader’s opinion about the matter (10). Jottini (2002) adds that tabloids also focus more on the people than on the event itself

– during the description of what happened, the tabloid journalists immediately link a certain person to it. The tone in which the article is written is more informal and tries to be exciting and dramatic (7).

3.1 The production of the news language

Bell (1991) characterises news as rarely a performance of only one person. According to him people are accustomed to the fact that when a person speaks, he is the only one who produces the language. People regard this as the norm; and consequently, they are under the false impression that the author of a newspaper article is the only one responsible for the used language as well (33).

Bell (1991) states that most of the international news is undertaken by the newspapers from the four international agencies, which he calls the Big Four and those are Reuters, Associated Press, United Press International and Agence France Presse. These agencies collect the international pieces of news, and then they provide them to the internal news agencies which send the news to the individual newspapers (16). As there is so much happening around the world, the internal agencies do not usually rewrite the articles from the Big Four so they simply forward them in the same structure. Therefore, a huge proportion of news is not actually written by the local journalists but by the press offices working for companies, government departments or other organisations. The reason is very simple – there is not enough time to rewrite each story.

Bell (1991) observed that in the newsroom, even a small one, there are several people working on the final version of an article – there is a chief reporter, journalist, subeditor and editor. The first person that sees a report is the chief reporter who

asides it to one of his journalists. The journalist first looks up the earlier stories for the background information, subsequently collects new data (usually by means of an interview) and then writes the story. The full story goes back to the chief reporter who either cycles it back to the journalist or makes minor changes himself. Subeditor is the next person to handle the story – he further edits the copy using techniques such as cutting, tightening, clarifying, reordering and restyling.

Unless he makes many changes, in which case he sends the article back to the chief reporter or the journalist, he forwards the story to the editor, who gives a final independent check. The article then goes through the subeditor to the receiving media (34-36). This path of the news stories can be seen in the figure bellow.

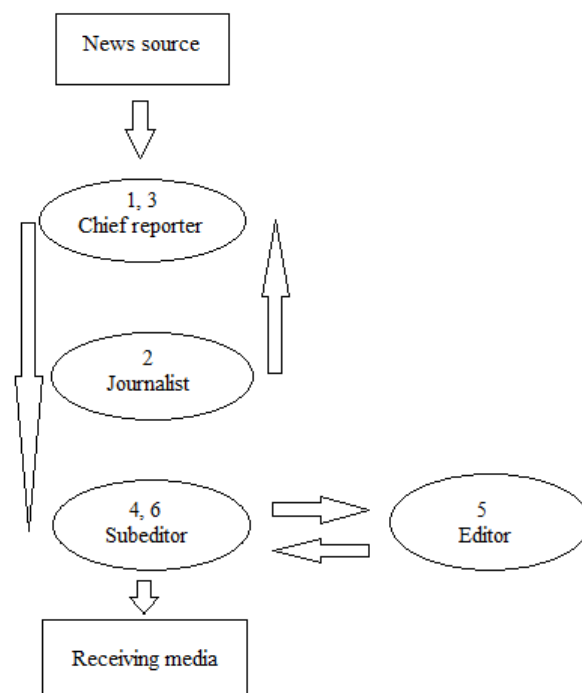


Figure 2 The path of the news within a newsroom

3.2 Newspapers' style

Crystal and Davy (1969) noticed that many people use the pejorative term of journalese, such as jargon, to describe the language style of the press or of a particular paper. As newspapers contain various types of writing – news, reviews imaginative writing, advertising and many more, there is no point in expecting that every single article printed in the newspapers will be linguistically homogeneous (173-174). Since this study focuses mainly on the news reporting articles, the possible differences or similarities in the linguistic style are not going to take other types of writing into the account.

One thing that the news reporting articles share according to White (2009) is the structure resembling an inverted pyramid. The inverted pyramid is the most popular structure for the news stories where information is in descending order of importance. It means the reports start with the most important facts, then they are followed by the detail and they end with the least important piece of news. In other words the top of the inverted pyramid includes information that the reader has to read in order to get the main idea of the article and with the narrowing of the pyramid information becomes only optional, it is only additional information (3).

The origins of this standardised method for writing the news stories evolved during the American Civil War, where the field reporters had to transmit their stories across the wire via Morse code during one telegraph transmission. They had to start with the primary information accompanied by other important facts because of two reasons. First the whole story would be too long to transmit and second, the wire could be damaged at any time (4).



Figure 3 Inverted pyramid (Dotjenna, 2012 dostupné z <http://www.dotjenna.com/inverted-pyramid-method>)

These two texts are going to practically demonstrate the difference between the text written in the traditional writing style, which expresses ideas in an enjoyable way for the reader, and by the use of the inverted pyramid method, that provides the reader with the concentrated and targeted information. It is evident that the second example starts with the aim of the text, with the most important information (Dotjenna, 2012, dostupné z <http://www.dotjenna.com/inverted-pyramid-method>).

Traditional writing style

Babies are cute little bundles of joy, bringing countless memories to our daily lives. These little loves are always needing a diaper change, always crying for a blanket or wriggling out of your hands to pet the dog. Sometimes babies just warm your heart by the way they snuggle with you when you hold them in your arms and rock them fast to sleep. Babies want love, care and warmth, just like everybody else.

Inverted pyramid method

Babies want love, care and warmth. It's important to keep their diaper changed and to feed them regularly. Studies have shown that babies will die without physical nurture. Psychologically, babies need acknowledgement and love from their caregivers. Babies develop with the help of both nature and nurture. Most of the things babies want come to the mother instinctually, but you may still want to study-up on things your baby needs and wants.

Figure 4 Examples of traditional writing style and the inverted pyramid method (Dotjenna, 2012, dostupné z <http://www.dotjenna.com/inverted-pyramid-method>)

Bell (1991) proposes that the style in the newspaper might be influenced by either the inter-speaker or the intra-speaker dimension of a language variation. The inter-speaker dimension states that the style depends on the speaker, or in our case the writer, on his age, gender or social class, and the intra-speaker dimension takes into the account the audience and modifies the writer's language in order that the reader would be more likely to read it (105).

3.2.1 Inputs used by journalists

Input is time, knowledge or ideas which are put into work in order to make it successful. Input for the journalists is any information or material including the older reports, dialogues, laws, announcements, press conferences and many more that they can use when they are writing an article. Bell (1991) states that the work of most journalists is not writing but more a reprocessing of an already existing text. The existing text is one of the inputs journalist might use. Interviews (face to face or by telephone), public addresses, press conferences, written text of spoken addresses, organisationally produced documents of various kinds (reports, surveys, letters, findings, minutes, etc.) press releases, prior stories on a topic, news agency copy or the journalist's notes from all the above inputs. These all mentioned above are according to Bell the different types of inputs (57).

In comparison to van Dijk (1988), who also includes the shared general knowledge about the news format, style of a language use, type of preferred topics or the person or group description (27), Bell (1991) omits the assumed knowledge journalists have and focuses mainly on the written or oral version of the same or similar story. He stresses the importance of the documentary inputs, which he

divides into two categories – those already written as news and those not written as news. By the second group, he means official documents such as reports, agendas or judgements.

Journalists prefer those written sources in which an appropriate news style has already been used; therefore, there is a minimal necessity of rewriting. Many stories stay the same without any reworking; however, some of them are given to a journalist for him to find a new angle of the issue or the influence on the local area. The inputs can be used in various ways – journalists can directly or indirectly quote, paraphrase or summarise the information. As news media feed of each other's stories, the news language is frequently recycled (57-59). Bell (1991) believes that: "A large proportion of news is talk about talk." (60).

3.2.2 Copy editing

Bell (1991) defines editing as an institutionalised and professionalised process by which one text is converted to a new text (66). This text is new in form, but it maintains the same meaning. As it has already been mentioned above, many texts that come from the news agencies through the local newspapers to the audience are not rewritten. They stay in the same or very similar form in which they were when they approached the news agency.

This phenomenon is explained by Boyd-Barrett (1980) who says that the reason for this practice is very simple – the time pressure. News agencies just do not have enough free time to rewrite the story or to make major changes (77). What news agencies are just not able to do because of the time restrictions, they leave to the newspapers themselves. Among these duties are adjustments, such

as the translation, explanation of aspects that might be unknown to their readers (for instance the specification of the city or person), deletion of unnecessary information or finding an angle, if there is any, how would that influence their readers (for example the effect of this message on the people of the Czech Republic).

There are several techniques of editing. Van Dijk (1988) was interested in the changes which were made to one story in different countries. He followed only one story in the newspapers around the world and focused on using those techniques. He found out that it was deleting chunks of copy and minor restyling that were used most often. There were no major alterations. The story maintained mostly the same structure (128). Bell (1991) presents three kinds of copy editing. The first is an information deletion, the second kind is a lexical substitution and the third kind is syntactic editing rules (68).

3.2.2.1 Information deletion

Information deletion is most often used practice of the editing techniques. In many sentences there are words which could be omitted and it would not change the meaning of the sentence. The readers will not miss them as they did not see the original text. Bell (1991) presents the main categories of the information deletion. The first category (1) is the removal of information unnecessary to the understanding of the story, the second category (2) deals with the structural changes, but the rest of the sentence still makes sense and the third category of deletion (3) leaves the sentence in need of repair, it is syntactically no sentence (70-72).

(1) In the first type mostly the modifiers (premodifiers and postmodifiers) of the head of a noun phrase are taken out. The head of a noun phrase, since the head is the most important part which carries the meaning, remains usually unchanged. The statement is supported by an example: *the results proving the hypothesis untrue* → *the results*. The first example is a part of the text that came from the news agency. The writer decided that there is an information which the reader will not miss. That is the reason why he/she deletes the postmodifier (*proving the hypothesis untrue*) of the head of the noun phrase (*results*), premodifier (*the*) was maintained.

Another example could be the omission of the details of age, occupation, nationality, exact numbers and even the name of a person, place or other entity, if the main interest is not in the person, but in what happened. Thus, *the youngest girl, Emily Jane Blake, age 17, student of Alcester Grammar School* becomes *the youngest girl aged 17*. In this case the journalist did not mention the name of the girl and the school that she attends, simply because, in his opinion, it was redundant. In order to save space, editors remove more often whole phrases or longer sentence constituents, instead of just one word. It is more effective.

(2) The example of the second category of information deletion is the deletion of attribution of a story to a news agency, such as in: *Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak has low expectations of the visit of U.S. Secretary of State in Syria, a spokesman announced here, Agence France Presse reported.* → *Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak has low expectations of the visit of U.S. Secretary of State in Syria.* The fact that the message was announced by a spokesman and that it was reported by Agence France Presse is not essential to the story. The important part is

that U.S. Secretary of State comes to Syria but Egypt does not expect any significant changes; therefore, the writer kept only this information and deleted the rest.

(3) In the third category, the repair that sentence needs is usually minor, for instance a change of an article: *the United Kingdom newspaper The Daily Telegraph* → *a United Kingdom newspaper*, where one particular newspaper in the United Kingdom was mentioned in the original report, but in the actual newspaper article there is only some United Kingdom newspaper – no specific information is given (70-72).

3.2.2.2 Lexical substitution

Bell (1991) presents some types of a lexical substitution. Lexical substitution is a replacement of one word for another one in case of the same or similar meaning, in other words, the use of synonyms such as verbs *scream* and *yell*, adjectives *gloomy* and *depressing* or time expressions *last year* and *a year ago*. Dušková (1994) states that synonyms, which are very common in English language (as well as in the Czech language), are words with a different form but the same meaning (21).

Quite often the meaning of the word and its alternative might have the same meaning on their own; still, they are not interchangeable in a certain context: *I found/discovered a ball in the garden.* vs. *Marie Curie ~~found~~/discovered the radium.* In the first example the verbs are interchangeable; however, in the second only the verb *discover* is a possibility because *find* can be used when it happens by chance or when you are looking for something that has been previously lost.

Another kind of change is the substitution of a specific reference with a more general one as in: *born in a small village called Černošice near Prague* → *born in the Czech Republic*. The form of the statement is appealing to the inhabitants of the Czech Republic, but for people of other nations the detailed information that he was born in a small village near Prague is unnecessary; thus, it was replaced by a more general term: Czech Republic (73).

3.2.2.3 Syntactic editing rules

Syntactic editing rules are used after certain deletions. There are three subcategories of syntactic editing rules and those are reversals, alternatives and applications. All the three are demonstrated on the following example taken from Bell (1991):

“The Annual General Meeting will open with a keynote speech from Sir James Stewart, a former Lincoln College principal, who will talk about the direction of agricultural policy.”

→

“Former Lincoln College principal Sir James Stewart will address the Annual General Meeting on the direction of agricultural policy.” (73).

This example presents three-way classification of syntactic editing rules:

- reversals, where relative clause (...who will talk about the direction of agricultural policy.) becomes a part of the main clause (...will address the Annual General Meeting on the direction of agricultural policy.);

- alternatives, where one structure (...will open with keynote speech...) is replaced by another (...will address...); and
- applications of the syntactic rules, which have to be applied in order for the sentence to make sense and to be grammatically correct such as the deletion of the preposition *from*, which became redundant and the replacement of the preposition *about* by *on* due to the change of the verb they follow.

3.3 The language of headlines

According to Bell (1991) a headline is an abstract of the abstract by which he means that the article itself is a concentrated form of the whole story and the headline summarises the gist of the article (186). This thought basically corresponds with the opinion of Li (2007), who describes the headline as the essence of a newspaper article using only a few words (1). The aim of the newspaper's headline is to inform quickly and accurately and potentially to arouse the reader's curiosity. Jottini (2002) names the language features of headlines with the specific examples. Those are:

- the omission of function words (Quirk (2007) states that those are words which have mainly grammatical role such as determiners, prepositions or auxiliary verbs (16));
- the use of short words for instance *row* instead of *argument*;
- the use of loaded words, which are words with strong connotation such as *skinny* or *rich*, which has a negative connotation in comparison to their synonyms *slim* and *wealthy*;

- the use of nominalisation – the turning of a verb into a dynamic noun as in:

“Jailed Iraqi abuse soldier in tears” (meaning: the soldier who abused)

(4);

- the use of noun phrases, that often include a modifier (noun, adjective, number, pronoun) for example *controversial opinion*, where *opinion* is the head of the noun phrase and *controversial* functions as pre-modifier; and

- the use of gimmicks, which may create ambiguity, such as:

- puns – the word plays including homophones as in: *“Dr Spuhler will maintain Swiss role.”* (4) (also meaning *Swiss roll*) or
- metaphors which describe one thing with terms unrelated to it for instance: *The key to success.* (3-6).

Conboy (2007) assigns three different functions to the headlines. The first function is what Bell and Li use as the definition of the headline, a brief summary of the main news. Headlines' attraction of attention is the second function. The third purpose of the headlines is the approach of the newspaper towards the story, content and style of the news values (13). To demonstrate this function Conboy (2007) uses as an example the two headlines dealing with the same news but from the different newspapers: *“Hospital bug hits more children”* and *“NHS KILLER BUG SHOCK”* (15). The first headline appeared in The Daily Telegraph in March 2004, the next one comes from The Sun in the same time period. In the headline from The Daily Telegraph we can see that the newspaper only informs of the fact that there is an increasing number of children who have after-surgery infection, but The Sun (the second example) makes it sound like there are children dying because of that particular reason.

Bell (1991) in his research found out that the news actors, for instance the political figure, celebrity, criminal or other public figure, are usually placed at the beginning of the headline accompanied by the descriptive noun phrases, such as *bumbling cops*, *engaged couple* or *hockey star* (195). Conboy (2007) believes that the newspapers put together a new form of the language used in headlines in order to save space – words are shortened into a concentration of communicative form, and they highly rely on puns (mentioned earlier in the chapter), alliteration (a repetition of usually consonants as in *big boss*) or the use of familiar phrases (clichés) for example *time is money* (15).

3.4 Language of broadsheets and tabloids

Timuçin (2010) argues that the language describing the same story is explicitly different in various types of newspapers. Based on his research, tabloids (or popular newspapers), in contrast to broadsheets (elite newspapers), often use an emotive and biased language, which is may lead to ambiguity or distortion such as *ridiculous*, *disgusting*, *heart-warming* (104). According to Bagnall (1993) sometimes both elite and popular newspapers are interested in the same story, but the language used to share the story is very different (25).

The language of the broadsheets and the tabloid is quite unlike – the tabloid newspaper use an emotive language: “*Trapped and Burned*” (1), personal pronouns and possessive adjectives “*OUR Human Rights*” (1), rhyme “*Yell left me in Hell*” (1), metaphors “*Sink estate going down the plughole*” (1), puns “*No Hippy Ending*” (1). Tabloids often apply single words and upper case letters; moreover, it is not unusual to come across exclamation or question marks. It is also typical of tabloid

that the sentences (paragraphs as well) start with conjunctions *and* or *but* and that the paragraphs often consist of only one sentence (Tabloid, 2012).

Broadsheets, on the other hand, focus more on the facts than on the emotions; in addition, more sophisticated words are used: *repudiate*, *proclaim* or *supposition*. The articles in the elite newspaper are longer than the ones in tabloid, consisting of more sentences, which are of a more complex structure. In contrary to the tabloid headlines, the chance to read a headline formed by only one word is extremely low (Tabloid, 2012).

Reporters in both types of newspapers start in the same way. First, they look for the story and then they start writing. Bagnall (1993) states that unlike broadsheet journalist, popular newspaper reporter modifies his/her language to describe the story in the way it fits the reader's conception of the world. He calls this special language of tabloid newspapers a "popspeak" and provides examples of the journalist world where villages are "*tiny communities*", dark girls are "*raven-haired*" and blondes are "*stunning*" or "*sizzling*" (25).

4 English language

The English language is one of the most important languages in the world. Various international meetings such as NATO summits, UN or EU meetings are held in the English language. According to Nga (2008) the English language is also the mother tongue of about 60 million people and it is used as an international language (260). Crystal (1997) adds that the English language is taught as a second language in more than one hundred countries. The English language also often replaces other languages which were the chief foreign languages in some countries (3), one of many examples is the Czech Republic, where the German language used to be number one foreign language in the educational process, but it has been superseded by the English language.

The popularity of the English language is growing because of two main reasons. First, it is a tool of communication with people around the world; second, it is widely used in the media and popular culture. The English language is all around us – most of the popular songs, movies or even the news broadcasts are in the English language. Crystal (1997) presents the statistics which show that nearly a quarter of all people is already fluent or competent in the English language, and he suggests that the number is steadily growing. If we consider that the statistics are sixteen years old and by then there was an estimate of 1.2 to 1.5 billion speakers (5), the number is probably even higher.

Crystal (1997) uses the classification of the US linguist Braj Kachru, who categorises the spread of the English language into three concentric circles based on the acquisition of the language and its current use. Those are the inner circle,

which includes the countries where the English language is the primary language, for instance Great Britain or the United States; the outer circle with countries, in which the English language became a very important part of the people's lives, mostly due to previous colonisation, countries such as India or Singapore; and the expanding circle, where are countries which consider the English language as an international language without any history of the English language being forced on their people – the Czech Republic or Japan. The expanding circle is the only one in which the number of countries is steadily growing (54-55).

Crystal (1997) uses the term “global language” for the English language (1). According to him, there are two conditions for a language to be called a global language. Primarily, the language has to gain an official or semi-official status in the country, which means that it either becomes an official language or a language not official but commonly used in the government, the law courts or in the media. In other words it is very important for inhabitants to master the language in order to live in the country. The second condition for a language to be considered a global language is to gain an educational priority, to become compulsory in the educational system (3-4). Crystal (1997) states that as a result of these two conditions (an official role of the English language and the educational priority), the language “will eventually come to be used by more people than any other language.” (4).

Crystal (1997) believes that the essential thing to make a language a global language is not the number of speakers but rather who these people are. Through the history there were several languages which gained the status of a global language: Greek in Ancient Greece, Latin in the times of the Roman Empire and powerful Catholic Church or Spanish in the period of colonialism. All these

languages were widespread when their main propagators were in power. That is the reason why Crystal (1997) believes that the main factor which language needs to achieve the international status is power. More precisely he says that the power of the military is important at the beginnings in order to establish the language, and then the power of the politics and economy to maintain the language and expand it. Of course, there have been other theories as well, theories which attributed worldwide status to the English language because of the lack of endings and no need of the division of masculine, feminine or neuter gender, in other words that it is the analytic character of the English language. However, Crystal points out that the Spanish language is a synthetic language (therefore full of endings) and it is a mother-tongue in about twenty countries, mostly in Latin America (5-7).

The English language became a global language, because in the 19th century it was Great Britain, who had the strongest influence and powerful military, economy and politics. Great Britain had started in the 16th century when it had been becoming a colonial power, and since then its influence expanded. However, in the 20th century Great Britain was outrun by the United States, which is now considered (and is) the most influential and powerful country in the world. As the United States is a former British colony, where the same language was used, the English language remained a global language. If the French conquered the British in the 18th century; and therefore, the official language of the United States was the French language, all over the world people would probably be learning the French language instead of the English language.

4.1 British English

It took many centuries for British English to develop. The English language was influenced by many languages and dialects through the history of Great Britain. The English language is a member of the Indo-European language family and developed from the Germanic branch alongside with the German or Dutch language. As the history of the English language development is very extensive, Kirkpatrick (2007) divides it into four stages: Old English (450-1150), Middle English (1150-1450), Early Modern English (1450-1750) and Modern English (from 1750) (40).

According to Kirkpatrick (2007) there were four main dialects during Old English and those were West Saxon, Kentish, Mercian and Northumbrian (40). However, Crystal (2004) believes there were far more dialects than only these four (34). Middle English is mostly marked by the invasion of William the Conqueror and his victory near Hastings in 1066. This period is specific for the rise of the French language among the aristocracy while the English language was set back and used only by the common men. This phenomenon lasted until the King John lost Normandy in 1204 and until the Hundred Years' War (1337-1453) began. According to Hogg and Denison (2010) as a result of that the English aristocracy abandoned the French language in favour of the English language – during this period most of the French loanwords entered the English language (273-274).

Henry V of England considered himself a true Englishman and hence he selected the East Midland dialect to be the standard language from now on. He provided many grounds why he decided for this particular dialect. Hogg, Denison, (2010) feature these main reasons:

- it was the dialect spoken by the largest number of people,
- East Midland was agriculturally rich,
- Oxford and Cambridge, the two universities, were present,
- and most importantly harbours, government, administration and the church were in this area (274-275).

The promotion of East Midland dialect changed the writing style which was up until now used by the Chancery, the king and the government in official documents. The Chancery played an important role in the standardisation process. Not only the uniformity of the documents but also their importance, helped to spread the English language across the country. At this time it was already standardised. Hogg and Denison (2010) state that the influence on the language can be seen even today. Spelling habits such as **-gh-** in *might*, **-ig-** in the word *foreign* or the **-d** ending in the past tense are all the work of the Chancery (275-276).

Fifty years after East Midland dialect was standardised, the printing press was introduced into Great Britain by William Caxton, who printed the book *History of Troy* in 1473, the first book ever written in the English language. Caxton decided to use the language of the Chancery. Even though his reasons were more economic than linguistic, he contributed to the expansion of the English language. As a result of the increasing printing in the English language, it is possible to say that there is more or less standardised (the same or very similar form is used by the most people) spelling by the end of the 17th century. In the following decades, many writers and linguists published dictionaries, where they explained the meaning of some new words or provided their French equivalents. One of the most famous dictionaries is the Johnson's dictionary (Dictionary of the English Language)

published in 1755. Johnson's dictionary contained 40,000 words, each explained in detail and illustrated. (British Library, 2013)

At the beginning of the 20th century, the concept of Received Pronunciation was presented by Daniel Jones. Received Pronunciation was (and still is) also known under the terms Queen's English or BBC English. It was a language spoken mainly by the educated middle and upper classes. With the invention of a radio and television in the 1920s and 1930s, BBC English reached many more people and became a part of the Great Britain's culture. However, regional accents remained till this day. (The history of English, 2013)

4.2 American English

The origins of American English date back to the first famous appearance of the British people at the coast of America. These people, who were called the Pilgrims, arrived on the Mayflower in 1621. Since then many other immigrants came to America and not just people from Great Britain, but also people from other European or African countries. Men and women from Africa were brought to America in order to be sold to slavery to work on the plantations. All these people came with their languages and according to Kirkpatrick (2007) there were 18 different languages spoken on Manhattan Island by the year 1644. This phenomenon led to the rise of American Indian Pidgin English (AIPE), which was a very important tool for the communication among the early settlers (55-56).

After the United States declared independence from the British Empire (1776), there were certain opinions that they should be freed of their language as well. Noah Webster started working on a dictionary of the rationalised and more systematic

English language. Even though Webster was an American nationalist, he was also a New Englander. Hogg and Denison (2010) maintain that people living in New England were known for their support of the British crown and for the use of a very similar version of the English language (393). Maybe if he lived in a different state, American and British English would be more dissimilar. Kirkpatrick (2007) in his book mentions the way Noah Webster simplified the spelling of several words containing *-our* into only *-or* and some words he shortened. He also preferred the *-er* instead of British *-re* and *-ize* as an alternative for British *-ise* (56-57). The specific examples will be later presented in the chapter Spelling.

Hogg and Denison (2010) stated that in the modern history of the United States it was Theodor Roosevelt, who claimed that they all lived in one country; thus, they should speak one language, and that should be the English language. The proposal to add an amendment to the Constitution which would have established the English language as an official language of the United States was not proposed until 1981. The amendment has never been accepted. More than twenty states declared the English language as their official language. Hawaii is the only state with two official languages – the English and Hawaiian language. There is no official language in the United States (417).

5 Differences between British and American English

The language which was spoken in the British Empire and America, its colony, was the same until the American declaration of independence from the British Empire. However, since then the English language parted and went two different ways. This led to the rise of British English and American English. Over the years several differences appeared, mostly in the grammar use, spelling and vocabulary. Nevertheless, Swan (2005) states that the British and American people can understand each other without much difficulties (39).

Quirk (1991) maintains that most differences between British and American English are known to the speakers of both countries, such as the use of the different participles of the verb *get* in American English (*got, gotten*), instead of only one form as used in Britain (*got*); or the possibility to use either singular or plural verb form with collective nouns in British English, whereas only a singular form in the American English: *The football team is/are satisfied with the results.* (19).

Among the most common phonological differences according to Swan (2005) are: the pronunciation of the letter *r* only before a vowel sound in British English but in all positions in American English – *care*: /keə/ vs. /ker/, *caring*: /keəriŋ/ vs. /keriŋ/; the use of the diphthong /əʊ/ in British English and /oʊ/ in American English – *go*: /gəʊ/ vs. /goʊ/; or the pronunciation of *t* between the vowels as /t/ in British English and as /d/ in American English – *water*: /wɒtə/ vs. /wɔdər/ (51-52).

Quirk (1991) also defines differences in vocabulary. Some words differ only in the root of the words, such as *motorway* in British English and *freeway* in American English. Both examples are syntactic endocentric compounds, where only one root functions as the **head** of the compound and the second root specifies the head: *motor/way* vs. *free/way*. In several cases completely different words are used to name the same thing: *trousers* in British English and *pants* in American English (20). The differences between British and American English in spelling, in the use of past simple tense instead of the present perfect tense and in the use of subjunctive mood will be discussed further in detail.

Even though the differences are clearly defined, Quirk (2007) also states that because of the closer communication of both nations, the language has been acquiring uniformity, especially in the neutral or formal styles of written English. As a result of this phenomenon, the frequency of elements clearly expressing the language of one of the national standards decreases (6). This leads to harder identification of unknown texts.

5.1 Spelling

It is Noah Webster, who is responsible for most of the spelling differences. After the Americans achieved independence, Noah Webster took the liberty of simplifying some of the features of the English language, for instance *colour* and *color*, where *colour* with **-our** is specific for British English whereas *color* with **-or** is specific for American English. The spelling differences between British and American English are presented in the table below.

	British spelling	American spelling
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	British spelling	American spelling
our/or	behaviour	behavior
ae/e	paediatric	pediatric
oe/o	mementoes	mementos
oeu/eu	manoeuvre	maneuver
re/er	metre	meter
ise/ize	criticise	criticize
ce/se	defence	defense
gramme/gram	kilogramme	kilogram
ogue/og	dialogue	dialog
e/-	judgement	judgment
que/ck	cheque	check
l/ll	fulfil	fulfill
ll/l	travelling	traveling

Table 1 Spelling differences between British and American English

American spelling in comparison to British spelling is simpler in some aspects. Kirkpatrick (2007) mentions that the simplification of words containing **-our** such as *honour*, *labour* or *neighbourhood* into only **-or** in *honor*, *labor*, *neighborhood*, or as Boyanova (2013) mentions the change of **-ae/-oe/-oeu** in *anaesthetist*, *mementoes*, *manoeuvre* into **-e/-o/-eu** in *anesthetist*, *mementos*, *maneuver* are some of them. British English also uses **-re** as in *theatre*, *centre* and **-ise** in words like *recognise*, *personalise* where American English uses **-er** in *theter*, *center* and **-ize** in *recognize*, *personalize* (56-57).

Hogg and Denison (2010) present more words which are shorter in American English than in British English: *programme* or *catalogue* in British spelling and *program* and *catalog* in American spelling. Then there are words, which do not have their own category, because there are just few instances, for example *judgement* in British English and *judgment* in American English (the omission of **-e-**)

or the different spelling for some words, as for the special way of paying: British *cheque* and American *check* (293).

Among other well known differences between British and American spelling is the use of either a single or double l. According to Hassan (2012) British English tends to use the double -ll- before a suffix beginning with a vowel: *travelling* (411); and Boyanova (2013) adds that the final -l is doubled in American English when the final syllable is stressed: *fulfill*.

5.2 Past simple tense

Quirk (1991) states that the past tense is usually used if the event clearly happened in the past; therefore, there is a space between the activity and the present, as in: *I studied in Toronto for three months.*, which clearly states that I do not study in Toronto any more. The past tense can be also marked by means of an indicator of time, such as: *last year, yesterday, a week ago*.

The appropriateness of the past tense use can come from the specific situation as well. This situation might be known to either a small group of speakers, for example: *Did you pass the exam?* when asked by a family member; or it can be widely known fact: *Shakespeare lived in Stratford upon Avon.*, which is general knowledge that Shakespeare was a play writer in the 16th century (183-185).

There are three categories of the past tense with the past reference and those are the event past, state past and habitual past. The event past uses the dynamic verbs and refers to a terminated event: *I finished my homework*. The state past describes the state of affairs in the past by using stative verbs: *I didn't like the movie Titanic*. The habitual past applies when something happens in the past repeatedly: *I smoked*

for ten years. In order to determine the habitual past, the sentence can be paraphrased with used to: *I used to smoke for ten years*. (Quirk, 1991; 186-187).

Quirk (1991) also distinguishes three extra groups of the past tense, which refer to present and future time. Those are as follows: the past tense in indirect speech, attitudinal past and hypothetical past. The rule for indirect speech says that if the verb of a framing clause is in the past, the verb of the following subordinate clause is in the past as well: *I remembered him saying that he missed the movie*. The attitudinal past refers to the present state of mind in a more polite way: *Did you wish me to come up now?* The hypothetical past is usually used in if-clauses expressing beliefs or expectations: *If I read more, we would have more things to talk about*. (187-188).

American English often uses the past simple tense in places where British English would use the present perfect tense. American English even collocates the past tense with the time adverbials *recently, just, already* or *yet*, which are characteristic for the present perfect tense, which Quirk presents in 'A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language' (192-194). Zhang (2008) presents two examples expressing the same idea: British English uses: "*I have already eaten*." whereas Americans English: "*I already ate*." (71).

5.3 Subjunctive mood

According to Mahmood (2011) the subjunctive mood was highly developed in Middle English, but after the 14th century the use of the subjunctive mood started to decline. In those days the subjunctive was easy to spot as the additional *-e* for the singular and *-en* for the plural (489-490). Nowadays, the subjunctive mood is still

used in the formal style and mostly in American English. However, Quirk (1991) indicates that the subjunctive again appears in British English and he believes that it is due to the American influence on British English (157).

Quirk (1991) divides the subjunctive into two categories – the present and past subjunctive. Further specification shows that there are two subcategories of the present subjunctive and those are the mandative and formulaic subjunctive (155-156). Both of them take the base form of the verb and are “distinctive only in the third person singular” [1] (155) except for the verb *be*, which is distinct in all persons [2]. The past subjunctive, also called the were-subjunctive, survives only with the past tense of the verb *be* [3] in the first and third person singular.

[1] *I insist that he **wash** the dishes after he finishes eating.*

[2] *I suggest that you **be** careful with that.*

[3] *If I/she **were** a princess, I/she would live in my own castle.*

Hais (1957) clarifies the uniqueness of the verb *be*. He states that the reason is the same form of a verb in the indicative mood and in the past subjunctive mood (109): *If I/he/we **wanted** to see Atlantis, I/he/we would have to travel back in time.* The verb *wanted* can be considered as both the past indicative mood and the past subjunctive mood. In addition, the verb has the same form in the first person singular and plural as well. However, when the verb *want* will be replaced by the verb *be*, as in: *If I/he/we **were** to see Atlantis, I/he/we would have to travel back in time.,* the subjunctive mood is clearly distinguishable in the first and third person singular (the indicative form of the verb is *was*). In the first person plural, it can again be considered both as the past indicative or past subjunctive mood.

The mandative subjunctive is the one most commonly used. It usually occurs in subordinate that-clauses following verbs, adjectives or nouns of urgency, such as *insist*, *essential* or *requirement*. Based on his research, Mahmood (2011) states that American English uses the present subjunctive ordinarily, but British English, even though the use of the present subjunctive occurs, still prefers to insert a modal verb or to use the putative *should* (492-493).

In Quirk's opinion (1991), the putative *should* expresses the imaginary or presumed situation, which may or may not come into existence [4] in contrast to the sentence without *should*-construction [5] (1014). Compare:

[4] *It astonishes me that he **should study** at the university.*

It questions the studying at the university.

[5] *It astonishes me that he **studies** at the university.*

It states the fact.

American English would prefer to use the mandative subjunctive, as in: *I demand that he leave immediately.* instead of the putative *should*, typical of British English: *I demand that he should leave immediately.*

Quirk (1991) provides the second subcategory of the present subjunctive and that is the formulaic subjunctive, which is quite old-fashioned and survives in fixed phrases, such as: "*God **save** the Queen!*" or "*Heaven **forbid** that I should let my own parents suffer.*" (157). The last form of the subjunctive is the were-subjunctive that expresses a hypothetical or unreal meaning. As it has already been mentioned before, the past subjunctive only occurs in the verb *be* and it is distinct in the 1st and the 3rd person singular: *If I **were** the president of the European Union, I would try to preserve the cultural heritage of each member state.*

However, not all linguists share Quirk's divisions. Hais (1957), for instance, considers the subjunctive mood as a much broader term. In his opinion, the subjunctive mood includes more verb tenses, for example the present or past perfect tense, and it also occurs in the types of subordinate clauses other than just subordinate that-clauses. Hais (1957) divides the subjunctive mood into two groups based on two different forms: the synthetic form and the analytic form (109).

The first group of the subjunctive mood is the synthetic form. Based on Hais (1957) it covers all three categories listed by Quirk: the mandative subjunctive [6], the formulaic subjunctive [7] and the were-subjunctive (or the past subjunctive) [8]. Besides the use of the infinitive as in the mandative and formulaic subjunctive and the past tense of the verb to be (were) in the were-subjunctive, Hais also includes these: the past tense [9] and past perfect tense [10], which resemble the indicative mood, the present perfect tense [11], where the auxiliary verb to have stays the same for all persons, the modal verbs shall, will, can, may and their past forms [12] (109).

[6] *I insist that he **step** down immediately.*

[7] *"Heaven **forbid** that I should let my own parents suffer."*

(Quirk, 1991; 157)

[8] *If I **were** unemployed, I would have to live with my parents.*

[9] *It is unbelievable that he **forgot** their 20th anniversary.*

[10] *It is unbelievable that he **had forgotten** their 20th anniversary.*

[11] *It is unbelievable that he **have forgotten** their 20th anniversary.*

[12] *It is unbelievable that he **would forget** their 20th anniversary.*

As the subjunctive and indicative mood often overlap, Hais (1957) adds that if the sentence does not show any time relations, it is the subjunctive mood; otherwise, it is considered the indicative mood (109). For example the sentence: *I wish that I could fly.* expresses the wish to have the ability, it does not specify that it is needed now or for a certain situation.

The second group of the subjunctive mood is the analytic form. According to Hais (1957) it is formed by the auxiliary verb, for instance: should, would, may, might or let, and by either the infinitive: *It is requested that you **should study** hard.*, or its perfect form: *I did not know that you **would have needed** a visa.* (109-110).

Both Hais and Quirk agree that the subjunctive mood (Quirk's mandative subjunctive and Hais's analytic form of the subjunctive) is used after the expressions of demand, proposal, intention: *to request, to suggest, to insist, to be surprising, to be unusual* etc. On top of these Hais (1957) marks the subjunctive mood in the adverbial clauses, usually after the conjunctions: *lest, so that, as if* [13], *as though, however, though, even if, even though* [14], *if, unless, provided* [15], *supposing, in case, on condition* (111-112).

[13] *They look **as if** they have just seen a ghost.*

[14] *She will prepare dinner **even though** he might not come.*

[15] *I would help him **provided** that he tried by himself first.*

6 Hypothesis

If the influence of American English is worldwide, it should be seen even in the British newspapers. It has already been mentioned that the United States is the most powerful country in the world and according to Crystal (1997), power is an important tool to make a language a global language (6). Based on the specifications of a global language, there should be no surprise that American English influences not only the learners of the English language around the world but also British English.

Some linguists (Swan, Quirk) agree that American English influences British English in several aspects. Some of them have already been mentioned, such as the use of the past simple tense where British English would use the present perfect tense or the mandative subjunctive used instead of the British putative should. Swan (2005) says that the phenomenon of using the past simple tense with the indefinite past-time adverbs, for instance *yet*, *ever* or *already*, in several cases is becoming regular in Great Britain too (457). Quirk (1991), on the other hand, mentions the use of the mandative subjunctive, commonly used in the United States, instead of the typical British putative should after the expressions of demand or intention (157).

Quirk (2007) believes that in the past century the English language has become uniform, apart from minor differences in spelling and grammar. He says that: “one can frequently go on for page after page without encountering a feature which would identify the English as belonging to one of the national standards.” (6). In the following chapter, this research is going to show whether there actually are varieties of spelling or grammar typical of American English in the British newspapers.

7 Research

This research focused on the analysis of newspaper articles in order to determine whether the influence of American English, as it is presented in Quirk (2007; 47, 52), can be seen even in the British newspapers.

7.1 Aims of research

The aim of this study is to confirm or to confute the belief of some linguists (Quirk, Swan) that in some aspects American English influences British English. There are opinions that the subjunctive mood, which is typical of American English, is becoming more frequent in British English, where the putative should has been preferred. Similar views are on the use of the past simple tense. It is known that American English favours the past simple tense, where the present perfect tense occurs in British English. Quirk (2007) believes that this phenomenon is increasing in British English (50).

This research is interested in possible occurrence of some of the differences between British and American English only in the language of newspapers. Therefore, the results cannot be considered as the common practices in all spheres such as: everyday conversation, speeches, literature, popular culture etc. The output of the survey will show the possible influence of American English on British English, the influence of British English on American English or whether they influence each other.

7.2 Methodology

As it has already been mentioned, this study investigated newspaper language. Only the broadsheet newspapers (not the tabloid newspapers), which were issued in the year 2012 in Great Britain and the United States were taken into account. Both countries are represented by three newspapers, each expressing a different political view. In Great Britain The Daily Telegraph is a right-wing newspaper, The Independent a neutral newspaper and The Guardian a left-wing newspaper. The terminology of division varies in the United States; nevertheless, it basically reflects the same political opinions: The Washington Times represents the conservative newspapers, USA Today the centrist newspapers and The Washington Post the liberal newspapers. All the newspaper articles were collected through the online database of the daily paper called the Library PressDisplay Newspaper that is accessible in the Library of the Technical University of Liberec.

Each newspaper is divided into several sections. The articles used in the research were taken from four main sections and those are: the news, world news, politics and business. These sections occur in every newspaper, but in some of them, they are under a different name, such as *World news* in The Daily Telegraph and *International* in The Guardian. After the selection of the articles, the number of sentences and words were counted and all the pieces of information, including the name of the article, the name of the newspapers, the date, the number of sentences and the number of words, were put into a database. There are two separate databases, one for the British newspapers, the other for the American

newspapers (Database of newspaper articles – Great Britain, Database of newspaper articles – United States). Both are accessible in Appendices 10.1, p. 75, and 0, p. 83.

The original plan was to cover the articles from the whole year. After the consideration of the amount of materials, only articles within a six-month-period (from June to November included) were chosen. Two thousand sentences (one sentence is from a full stop to the following full stop) were analysed; nevertheless, the number was later reduced to three hundred sentences from the British newspapers and three hundred sentences from the American newspapers (one thousand eight hundred altogether). Given the extent of this study, the number of sentences was decreased by half, choosing the interesting articles. Therefore, nine hundred sentences (one hundred and fifty from each newspaper) were examined and included, with colour legend for easier orientation, in the appendix of this thesis. The headlines were not included into the study.

Every single article was then analysed by means of some of the main differences between British English and American English, in detail: the spelling, past simple tense used instead of the present perfect tense and subjunctive mood, so that the hypothesis of American English influence on British English in newspaper language could be either confirmed or confuted. Each sphere of interest has two databases, one for American English and one for British English (Spelling, Past simple tense used instead of present perfect tense and Subjunctive mood). The databases contain all examples which indicate either the typical British or American language from every article. In case of the repetition of one word in the exact same form in one article, for instance *medallist*, the log entry was made just once. The databases also include the examples of the British usage

in the American newspapers and vice versa, such as the typically British spelling of the word *colour* in the American newspapers or the typically American spelling *color* in the British newspapers. All databases are accessible in Appendices 10.1 and 0. The results will be further discussed in the following chapter.

7.3 Results and discussion

This chapter presents the results to which the research has come. It is divided into four subsections, which are as follows: Overall results, Spelling, Past simple tense used instead of the present perfect tense and Subjunctive mood.

Every subsection starts with the introduction to general conclusions, where no concrete numbers are mentioned. It is followed by figures in which columns show British and American English. They are used for better illustration of the obtained results. Each diagram is followed by a discussion that describes it and provides specific numbers.

7.3.1 Overall results

This study analysed nine hundred sentences of newspaper language representing British English and American English (four hundred and fifty of British English and four hundred and fifty of American English). The overall results show that even though the number of sentences is the same, the number of words and articles varies. Based on these results it seemed appropriate to establish also the average number of words in one sentence. Concrete results are demonstrated in the figures below.

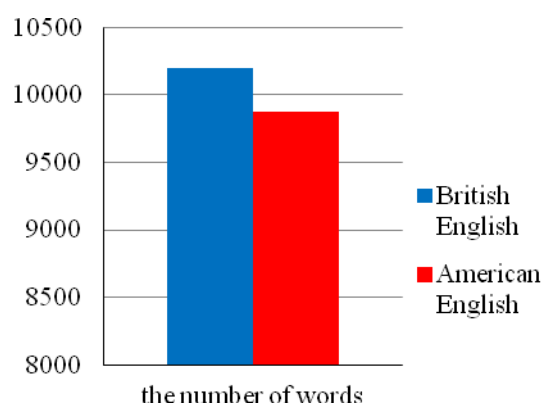
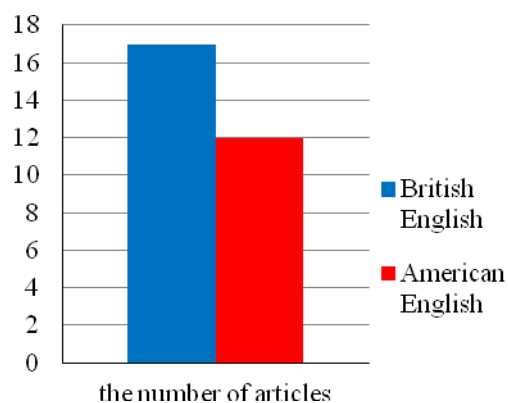


Figure 5 The number of articles

Figure 6 The average number of words

Discussion

There are seventeen sample articles of the British newspapers and only twelve of the American newspapers (see Figure 5). Even though five more articles of the American newspapers had to be analysed in order to get the required number of sentences, the difference in the total number of words is not that significant. There are ten thousand one hundred and ninety eight words from the British newspapers and nine thousand eight hundred and seventy four words from the American newspapers (see Figure 6). The distinction comes to three hundred and twenty four words, which is less than two percent of the total number of words (exactly 1.61 %).

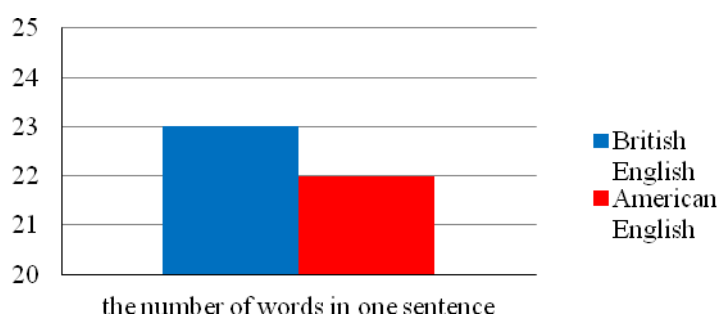


Figure 7 The average number of words in one sentence

Discussion

Figure 7 shows the average number of words in one sentence. The results are almost identical in this respect – the amount varies only in one word. On average one sentence of the British newspapers consists of twenty three words, and there are twenty two words in the American newspapers.

7.3.2 Spelling

When we add together the absolute number of words used in the British and American newspapers, we receive twenty thousand and seventy two words (see Figure 6). The aim of this part was to analyse the texts in order to find as many spelling varieties as possible. This study first found all examples of spelling which is considered either typical British or typical American. In other words, it was interested in the spelling that corresponds with one of the national standards of the English language. These examples were then divided into two groups: the spelling examples found in the British newspapers and the spelling examples found in the American newspapers.

Each group mostly contains the examples of national standard spelling, which means the typical British spelling in the British newspapers and the typical American spelling in the American newspapers: *organisation* – the typical British spelling in the British newspapers (Appendix 10.4, p. 94) versus *organization* – the typical American spelling in the American newspapers (Appendix 10.5, p. 104). Then the research focused on the areas in which British English and American English differ by discovering atypical spelling examples in the newspaper articles – the British spelling in the American newspapers and the American spelling in the British newspapers. Within the first group, the American spelling in the British newspapers, one word of the typical American spelling was found in the British newspapers (see Figure 11).

Every single item expressing one of the national standards is mentioned in the database so as to provide an objective report of the percentage of the typical British spelling in the British newspapers and the typical American spelling in the American newspapers. Based on the collected data, British English uses almost twice as much national standard marked spelling than American English – almost fifty examples of the typical British spelling in the British newspapers versus less than thirty examples of the typical American spelling in the American newspapers. It is very well seen both in the pure numbers (see Figure 8) and in the percentage (see Figure 9).

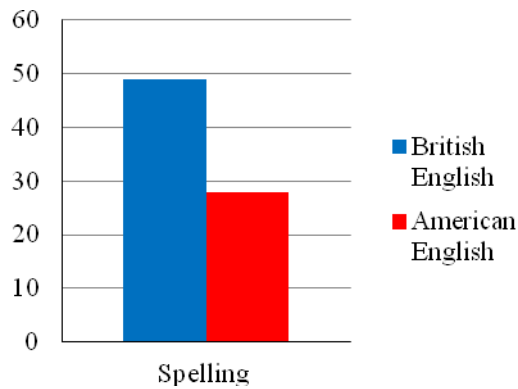


Figure 8 Spelling – the absolute numbers

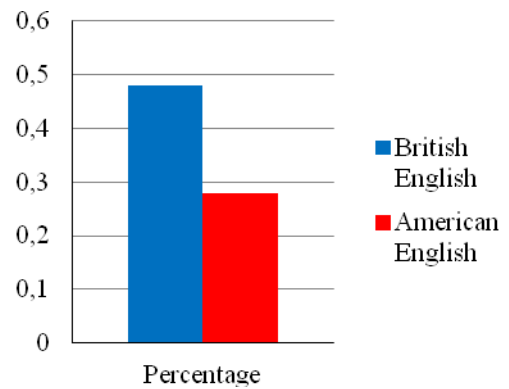


Figure 9 Spelling – the percentage of the absolute number of words

Discussion

Figure 8 shows the total number of spelling marked with one of the national standards. There were fifty examples of marked spelling in the British newspapers and twenty eight examples in the American newspapers. After the deduction of the atypical spelling of British English in the American newspapers and vice versa, the final numbers are: forty nine examples of the British national standard spelling in the British newspapers and twenty eight examples of the American national standard spelling in the American newspapers.

Quirk (2007) believes that in the past century the English language developed a certain extent of uniformity through the closer world-wide communication. Besides

what he calls “a tiny element of individual decision” (6), such as organise/organize, the spelling is almost the same, but of course with two minor subsystems – British and American English. Nevertheless, Quirk states that nowadays the identification of whether the text is in British or American English is quite hard as it can take time to come across an element belonging to one of the national standards (6). From the numbers in Figure 8 or the percents in Figure 9, it could be said that American English uses more uniform language than British English.

Figure 9 demonstrates the percentage of the words which were identified as belonging to one of the national standards. It is clearly seen that the frequency of the American standard spelling is almost twice as little as of the British standard. As the results are rendered in percentages, the disparity of the absolute numbers of words in the British and American newspapers is irrelevant. The individual differences are presented in the next figure (see Figure 10).

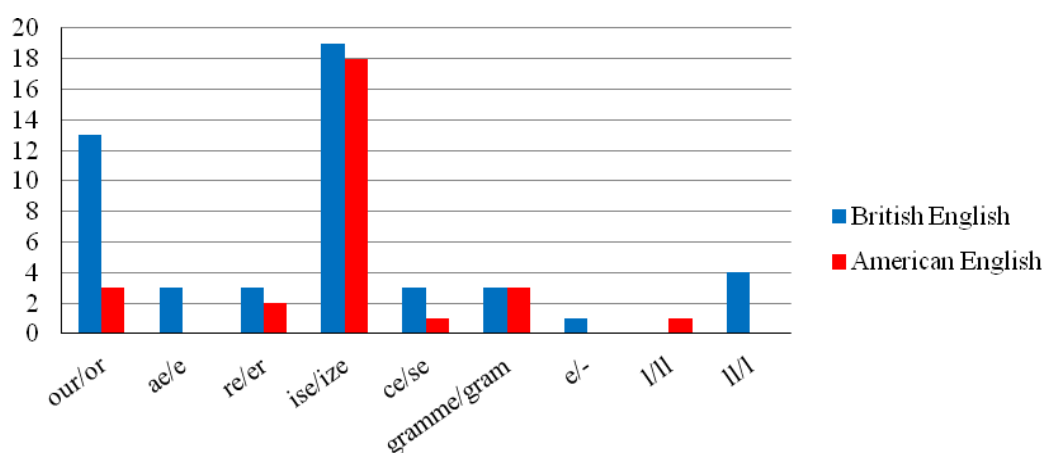


Figure 10 Spelling - differences

Discussion

Figure 10 indicates the frequency of the individual spelling differences. Most examples which were found in the articles are in the category *-ise/-ize*, where *-ise* is typical of British English and *-ize* of American English. Some of the most common words are *organisation* (Appendix 10.4, p. 94) or *recognise* (Appendix 10.4, p. 91) in the British newspapers vs. *organization* (Appendix 10.5, p. 104) or *recognize* (Appendix 10.5, p. 103) in the American newspapers. The group *-our/-or* is the one with the great disparity of examples found in the British and American newspapers. Based on the results the use of the words with *-or* in American English is not as common as the use of *-our* in British English – there are thirteen examples of *-our* in British English and only three of *-or* in American English. The common word is *neighbours* (Appendix 10.4, p. 92) in the British newspapers vs. *neighbors* (Appendix 10.5, p. 107) in the American newspapers; in British articles words such as: *favour* (Appendix 10.4, p. 98), *honour* (Appendix 10.4, p. 91) or *rumour* (Appendix 10.4, p. 95) were also among the national standard marked. No examples were discovered in the *-ae/-e*, *-e/-*, *-ll/-l* party in the American newspapers, and *-l/-ll* party in the British newspapers.

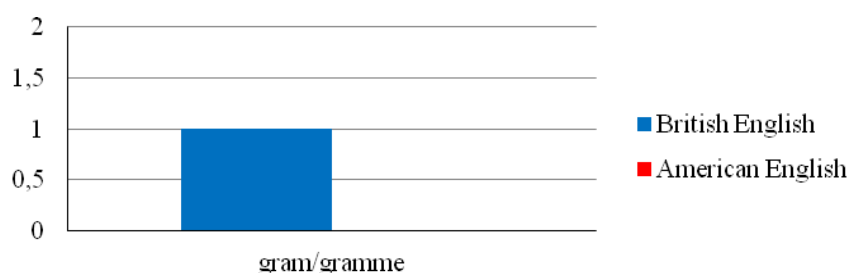


Figure 11 Spelling – atypical of one of the national standards

Discussion

As it has already been mentioned before, there is only one word with atypical spelling. This noun occurred in The Independent newspaper, it is the word *program* (Appendix 10.4, p. 95). Given that this is the only example of the American spelling in the British newspapers, it might be assumed that in this particular sphere (spelling) American English probably does not influence British English.

7.3.3 Past simple tense used instead of Present perfect tense

Every newspaper article of both the British and American newspapers was analysed in order to determine how often the present perfect tense is replaced by the past simple tense. After examining all occurrences of the past simple tense, only one category (past simple tense used instead of present perfect tense) was put into a database. There was no point in keeping records of other categories, which are: event past, state past, habitual past, the past tense in indirect speech, attitudinal past and hypothetical past, as they are identical for both British and American English; and therefore, not part of this study. Even though there are more examples of the past simple tense used in the British articles, the number of verbs in the past simple tense which are supposed to be the present perfect tense is higher in the American newspapers. The results are presented in the figures below.

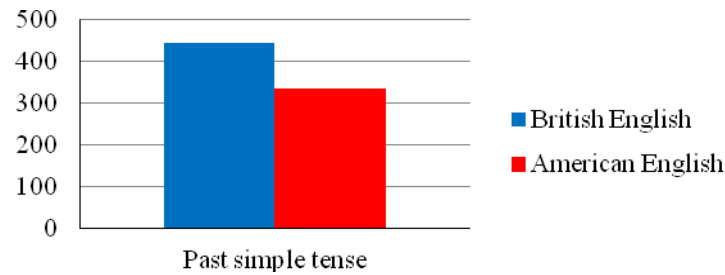


Figure 12 Past simple tense – the absolute numbers

Discussion

In the British newspapers, which were analysed for the purpose of this study, there are four hundred and forty four examples of the past simple tense. The American newspapers, on the other hand, contain three hundred and thirty six verbs in the past simple tense.

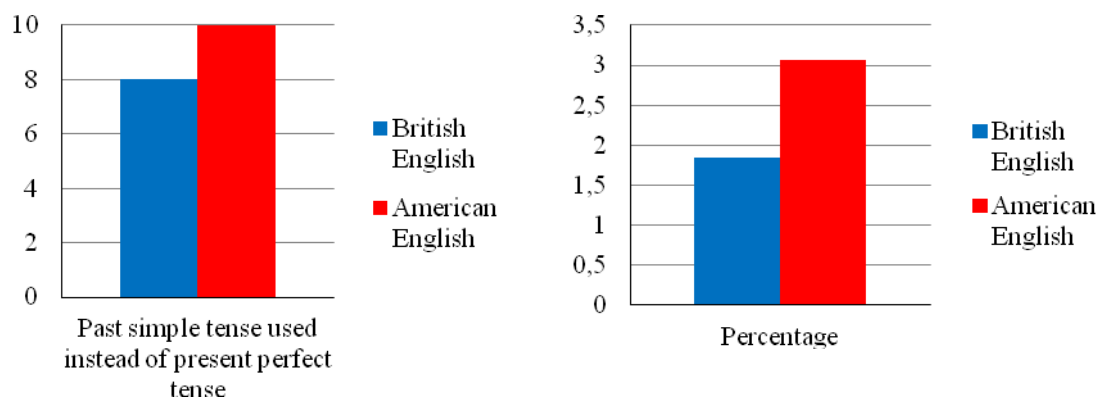


Figure 14 Past simple tense used instead of the present perfect tense – the percentage

Discussion

Figure 13 Past simple tense used instead of the present perfect tense – the absolute numbers

Based on the number of the examples of the past simple

tense, the final numbers of the past simple tense used instead of the present perfect tense are quite low. There are only eight examples in the articles from the British newspapers and ten in the American ones.

The percentage of the cases in which the past tense was used instead of the present perfect tense is 1,84 % in the British articles, and 3,07 % in the American articles. Given the higher number and lower percentage of verbs in the past tense in the British newspapers, it is possible to say that American English might influence British English in case of newspaper language.

As the interpretation of whether or not the present perfect tense should be used instead of the past tense might be individual and sometimes ambiguous, two examples, one from the British newspapers and one from the American newspapers, are here provided with their contexts and further explained. The rest of the examples are listed and briefly explained in the Appendices 10.4 and 10.5 in the footnotes.

British newspapers: The Guardian – Merkel flies in for EU's redefining moment

*A senior EU diplomat intimately involved in the Franco-German dynamic for 20 years says, however, that Merkel and Hollande are condemned to forging a modus operandi and that the stakes are too big. "Helmut Kohl and François Mitterrand were dreadful at the start. They hated each other. Gerhard Schröder and Jacques Chirac was the lowest **I ever saw**. It's always like this with France and Germany," he said. "They always represent different*

positions and then they find a compromise that everyone else agrees with except the UK." (Appendix 10.4, p. 98)

The newspaper article talks about the visit of German Chancellor Angela Merkel to the Élysée Palace in order to settle a deal with the newly elected French President François Hollande. It is a first disagreement between Germany and France in thirty months. The head of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, stresses the importance of the Franco-German accord in the question of where Europe must go and how it should get there. The long-term relationship between the two countries, France and Germany, is further described by a senior European Union diplomat who closely follows the Franco-German dynamics.

The clause: "*I ever saw*" is a subordinate clause (a defining relative clause) which follows the main clause: "*Gerhard Schröder and Jacques Chirac was the lowest*". The relative pronoun that was omitted, because it functions as an object of the defining relative clause, and therefore it can be left out without any change in the meaning. According to Quirk (1991), the adverbial *ever*, which is used in the subordinate clause, is commonly associated with the present perfect tense. Nevertheless, American English tends to use these time adverbials with the past tense as well (192-194).

One more reason, why the present perfect tense should be used in this subordinate clause instead of the past tense is that all the main protagonists, the German Chancellor, the French President, the senior EU diplomat, are still alive and the situation can change anytime. The German Chancellor Angela Merkel can step down or the French President François Hollande might not be re-elected

in the next presidential election. The situation can change and there can be even a worse relationship between France and Germany than there was while Gerhard Schröder and Jacques Chirac were in power.

The rest of the past tense used instead of the present perfect tense examples found in the British newspapers are:

- But the property was recently auctioned... (Appendix 10.4, p. 99),
- We made something really nice here,... (Appendix 10.4, p. 99),
- ...who joined the BBC as marketing chief,... (Appendix 10.4, p. 94),
- That was a terrible decision. (Appendix 10.4, p. 94),
- Israel began preparations to call up 30,000 reserve soldiers. (Appendix 10.4, p. 96),
- The Israeli attacks left a trail of destruction across Gaza... (Appendix 10.4, p. 96),
- Mr. Morsi who recalled his ambassador immediately after hostilities began,... (Appendix 10.4, p. 96).

American newspapers: The Washington Post – A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India

“Under Musharraf, money flowed into Gah from the Punjab provincial government that was dominated by Musharraf’s party, funding roads, water projects and social service facilities. Pakistan permitted a team of Indian technicians from an energy institute to come to Gah to install solar-powered

*street lamps, lighting for homes and a hot-water system for the village mosque. Then Singh's visit was scrubbed, amid the political turmoil in 2007 that led to Musharraf's ouster in 2008. The attacks on Mumbai that November — which India blamed on Pakistan-sanctioned militants — severely strained a bilateral relationship already burdened by old enmities and suspicions. Diplomats suspended regular talks on territorial disputes, including the central one of Kashmir, the Muslim majority Himalayan region over which India and Pakistan have gone to war three times since both nations became independent from Britain 65 years ago. Funds for Gah's projects were cut. **Already-constructed schools and other facilities were never staffed.**" (Appendix 10.5, p. 105)*

This article was published in the American newspaper, and it describes a situation in the village of Gah in the Punjab province. This village was supposed to be a symbol of a good relationship between India and Pakistan. Gah is called a model village, where new public health centre, boys' secondary school and women's vocational centre were built. The problem is that after a political turmoil between the two countries in 2007, the money stopped going to the village of Gah, and even though, the facilities were ready to use by that time, there would be no one to pay the needed staff. Consequently, this project cost some of the villagers their land, as they provided it to the government for the centres and school, so they lost their land for building with no use.

The reason why I believe that the present perfect tense should be used instead of the past tense is that the buildings are still there, the only thing that is missing

is the people who would work or study there. If the political situation changes or the money starts pouring to the village again, which could happen, the facilities might get into use. The past tense should be used if the buildings were destroyed or damaged badly. There are too many unknowns to use the definite past simple tense.

The rest of the past tense examples used instead of the present perfect tense examples found in the American newspapers are:

- The landing was scheduled for 1:31 a.m.,... (Appendix 10.5, p. 105),
- The final descent was pre-programmed... (Appendix 10.5, p. 105),
- And staff never came... (Appendix 10.5, p. 105),
- We kept our promises, and they have not. (Appendix 10.5, p. 105),
- ...the Supreme Court recently disqualified a prime minister from office for contempt of court... (Appendix 10.5, p. 106),
- Unal recently appeared on a pro-Syrian government television channel,... (Appendix 10.5, p. 107),
- Did you convert Obama from Islam to Christianity? (Appendix 10.5, p. 102),
- ...who met him twice,... (Appendix 10.5, p. 102),
- It also cracked the top 100 for all free apps. (Appendix 10.5, p. 103).

7.3.4 Subjunctive mood

Nine hundred sentences were examined to discover whether the subjunctive mood is still in use in newspaper language and also to what extent. In this category, there are several surprises, not only one example of an almost archaic formulaic subjunctive in the British newspapers, but also the just as unexpected occurrence of the putative should, which is considered to be typical of British English, in the American newspapers. The mandative subjunctive is the one used most often in the American articles, and according to the expectations, the putative should occurs most in the British newspapers; although the difference is not as obvious as in the American newspapers. The final results take notice of the ambiguous clauses, which can be either considered the subjunctive mood or indicative mood. Concrete results are demonstrated in the figures below.

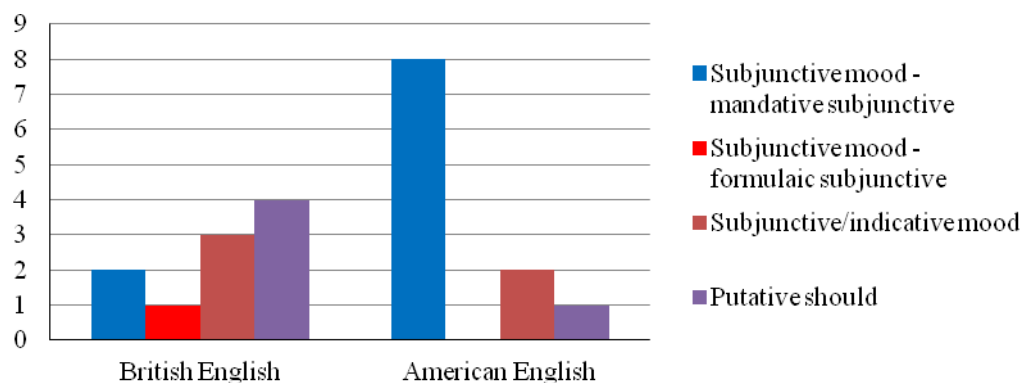


Figure 15 Subjunctive mood – the absolute numbers

Discussion

Figure 15 presents the numbers of each category: the mandative subjunctive, formulaic subjunctive, subjunctive/indicative mood and putative should. Altogether most used is mandative subjunctive [1] of which two examples were found in the British newspapers and eight in the American newspapers. The most common in the British articles is the putative should [2] with four instances;

in the American articles there is only one example. Interesting is the formulaic subjunctive [3], which was discovered in *The Independent*, the British newspapers.

[1] *His Pakistani counterpart [...] directed **that its primary school be renamed after Singh** [...].* (Appendix 10.5, p. 106)

[2] *A pro-European commentator [...] suggested **she should sacrifice her political career** [...].* (Appendix 10.4, p. 98)

[3] ***God bless al-Qassam.*** (Appendix 10.4, p. 96)

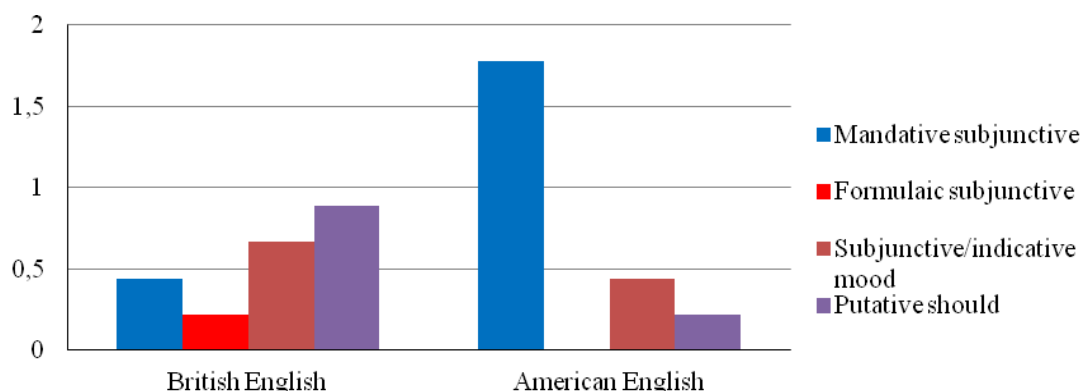


Figure 16 Subjunctive mood – the percentage of the absolute number of sentences

Figure 16 shows the percentage of the total number of sentences. All the values are low, only the mandative subjunctive in the American newspapers surpassed the border of one percent. The numbers are as follows:

- the mandative subjunctive 0,44 % in the British newspapers and 1,78 % in the American newspapers;
- the formulaic subjunctive 0,22 % in the British newspapers and 0 % in the American newspapers;

- the subjunctive/indicative mood 0,67 % in the British newspapers and 0,44 % in the American newspapers;
- the putative should 0,89 % in the British newspapers and 0,22 % in the American newspapers.

Subjunctive mood		
	British English	American English
Subjunctive mood - mandative subjunctive	2	8
Subjunctive mood - formulaic subjunctive	1	-
Subjunctive/indicative mood	3	2
Putative should	4	1
Total	10	11

Table 2 Subjunctive mood

Discussion

It is clear from Table 2 that there are two examples of the mandative subjunctive, which is usually used in American English, but which is apparently becoming more common in the British English as well. This is another signal of the influence that American English has on British English. On the other hand, the occurrence of the putative should in the newspaper USA Today suggests that American English can be affected by British English as well.

8 Conclusion

The hypothesis of this study – if the influence of American English is worldwide, it should be seen even in the British newspapers – was confirmed by the individual results of the research, nine hundred sentences (four hundred and fifty from the British newspapers and four hundred and fifty from the American newspapers) were analysed by means of spelling differences, the use of the past tense instead of the present perfect tense and subjunctive mood. Even though I expected the influence of American English on British English to be greater, the impact on the British newspapers language is there.

Seventeen British articles containing ten thousand one hundred and ninety eight words and twelve American articles consisting of nine thousand eight hundred and seventy four words were analysed for the purpose of this study. The distinction of the number of words between the British and American articles is less than two percent, concretely 1.61 %. The average number of words in one sentence is twenty three in the British newspapers and twenty two in the American newspapers, which explains the difference between the numbers of words.

In the spelling area there were forty nine examples of the typical British spelling in the British newspapers and twenty eight examples of the typical American spelling in the American newspapers. These numbers contribute to the Quirk's (2007) opinion of the uniformity of the English language, which leads to a harder identification of whether the text is in British or American English (6); besides, the numbers also show that American English probably uses more of the national standard unmarked spelling.

The results of the frequency of the individual spelling differences show that the category which occurred most often is -ise/-ize, where -ise is typical of British English (e.g. *organise*) and -ize of American English (e.g. *organize*). The group -our/-or is the one with the most significant gap – the common word is for instance *neighbour* typical of British English and *neighbor* of American English. There was only one spelling example which corresponds with the hypothesis and that is the word *program* found in the British newspapers. The characteristic spelling of this word in British English is *programme*.

The second area of interest was the use of the past tense instead of the present perfect tense. This phenomenon is typical of American English – it uses the past tense where British English would use the present perfect tense. The findings demonstrate that the use of the past tense instead of the present perfect tense covers for 1.87 % in the British newspapers and 3.07 % in the American newspapers of the total amount of the past tense. Although it is less than two percent of the total past tense, it still shows that American English influences the language in the British newspapers.

The subjunctive mood category was the one most interesting. It presents that the mandative subjunctive which is typical of American English occurs in British language as well – two examples of the mandative subjunctive were found in the British newspapers. However, the remarkable part is that one example of putative *should*, used mainly in British English, was discovered in the American newspapers. Therefore, this class indicates that not only American English probably impacts British English, but also that there might be a small effect of American English by British English too.

The outputs of this research show that American English may in fact influence the language of the British newspapers. There was one example of the atypical spelling of British English, eight examples of the past tense used instead of the present perfect tense and two examples of the mandative subjunctive which is typical of American English. Nevertheless, the amount of analysed sentences is not sufficient to make a definite remark on British English being influenced by American English.

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10 Appendices

10.1 Newspapers – Great Britain

Database of newspaper articles - Great Britain					
No.	Article title	Date	Newspaper	No. of sentences	No. of words
1	Second Health trust is put on danger list for financial rescue	27 Jun 2012	The Guardian	15	489
2	Merkel flies in for EU's redefining moment	27 Jun 2012	The Guardian	43	1193
3	We are in state of war, says Assad as battle rages in capital	27 Jun 2012	The Daily Telegraph	31	684
4	The 'dark wards' prisoners left to die, says military doctor who fled	27 Jun 2012	The Daily Telegraph	29	618
5	Medallists 'Could miss out on honours'	22 Aug 2012	The Daily Telegraph	9	283
6	Prince's double Olympic victory: first Bolt, now champion swimmer	22 Aug 2012	The Daily Telegraph	15	443
7	The issue isn't Obama, any more than it was Bush before him. The issue is US power	23 Aug 2012	The Independent	19	434
8	This is your last chance to keep reform promises, Greece is told	23 Aug 2012	The Independent	27	720
9	Live your passion ... somewhere else. Rio Threatens to evict artists for Olympics	24 Aug 2012	The Guardian	47	831
10	Public opinion judges that Breivik is sane	24 Aug 2012	The Guardian	14	305

Database of newspaper articles - Great Britain					
No.	Article title	Date	Newspaper	No. of sentences	No. of words
11	Morsi pledges to curtail detention of journalists	24 Aug 2012	The Guardian	15	298
12	Mourning Memorials for shot South African miners	24 Aug 2012	The Guardian	16	309
13	Mystery of executive who signed off on Newsnight	12 Nov 2012	The Independent	22	550
14	British sailor caught trying to spy for Russia	14 Nov 2012	The Independent	22	543
15	McAlpine goes to war with the BBC, ITV - and Twitter	16 Nov 2012	The Independent	32	580
16	Militants' missiles target Tel Aviv in revenge attack	16 Nov 2012	The Independent	28	653
17	Missile kills four children from on family in Gaza	19 Nov 2012	The Daily Telegraph	66	1265

British newspapers - spelling				
No.	Spelling	Type	Article title	Newspaper
1	realised	ise	Merkel flies in for EU's redefining moment	The Guardian
2	favouring	our	Merkel flies in for EU's redefining moment	
3	modernised	ise	Merkel flies in for EU's redefining moment	
4	federalised	ise	Merkel flies in for EU's redefining moment	
5	centre	re	We are in state of war, says Assad as battle rages in capital	The Daily Telegraph
6	defence	ce	We are in state of war, says Assad as battle rages in capital	
7	organise	ise	We are in state of war, says Assad as battle rages in capital	

British newspapers - spelling				
No.	Spelling	Type	Article title	Newspaper
8	realised	ise	We are in state of war, says Assad as battle rages in capital	
9	faeces	ae	We are in state of war, says Assad as battle rages in capital	
10	recognised	ise	We are in state of war, says Assad as battle rages in capital	
11	anaesthetist	ae	We are in state of war, says Assad as battle rages in capital	
12	medallists	ll	Medallists could miss out on honours	The Daily Telegraph
13	honoured	our	Medallists could miss out on honours	
14	honours	our	Medallists could miss out on honours	
15	honour	our	Medallists could miss out on honours	
16	medallist	ll	Prince's double Olympic victory: first Bolt, now champion swimmer	The Daily Telegraph
17	scrutinise	ise	The issue isn't Obama, any more than it was Bush before him. The issue is power	The Independent
18	favourable	our	The issue isn't Obama, any more than it was Bush before him. The issue is power	
19	personalised	ise	The issue isn't Obama, any more than it was Bush before him. The issue is power	
20	radicalises	ise	The issue isn't Obama, any more than it was Bush before him. The issue is power	
21	labour	our	This is your last chance to keep reform promises, Greece is told	The Independent
22	programme	gramme	This is your last chance to keep reform promises, Greece is told	

British newspapers - spelling				
No.	Spelling	Type	Article title	Newspaper
23	capitalise	ise	Live your passion... somewhere else. Rio threatens to evict artists for Olympics	The Guardian
24	centre	re	Live your passion... somewhere else. Rio threatens to evict artists for Olympics	
25	organisation	ise	Live your passion... somewhere else. Rio threatens to evict artists for Olympics	
26	organised	ise	Live your passion... somewhere else. Rio threatens to evict artists for Olympics	
27	modernisation	ise	Live your passion... somewhere else. Rio threatens to evict artists for Olympics	
28	favour	our	Public opinion judges that Breivik is sane	The Guardian
29	judgement	e	Public opinion judges that Breivik is sane	
30	rumours	our	Morsi pledges to curtail detention of journalists	The Guardian
31	travelling	ll	Morsi pledges to curtail detention of journalists	
32	licences	ce	Mourning memorials for shot South African miners	The Guardian
33	programme	gramme	Mystery of executive who signed off on Newsnight	The Independent
34	paedophile	ae	Mystery of executive who signed off on Newsnight	
35	organisation	ise	Mystery of executive who signed off on Newsnight	
36	programs		British sailor caught trying to spy for Russia	The Independent
37	programme	gramme	McAlpine goes to war with the BBC, ITV - and Twitter	The Independent

British newspapers - spelling				
No.	Spelling	Type	Article title	Newspaper
38	apologised	ise	McAlpine goes to war with the BBC, ITV - and Twitter	
39	rumours	our	McAlpine goes to war with the BBC, ITV - and Twitter	
40	recognised	ise	McAlpine goes to war with the BBC, ITV - and Twitter	
41	favourite	our	McAlpine goes to war with the BBC, ITV - and Twitter	
42	libellous	ll	McAlpine goes to war with the BBC, ITV - and Twitter	
43	organisations	ise	Militants' missiles target Tel Aviv in revenge attack	The Independent
44	defence	ce	Militants' missiles target Tel Aviv in revenge attack	
45	centre	re	Militants' missiles target Tel Aviv in revenge attack	
46	neighbourhood	our	Militants' missiles target Tel Aviv in revenge attack	
47	realise	ise	Militants' missiles target Tel Aviv in revenge attack	
48	neighbours	our	Missile kills four children from one family in Gaza	The Daily Telegraph
49	realised	ise	Missile kills four children from one family in Gaza	
50	neighbourhood	our	Missile kills four children from one family in Gaza	

British newspapers - past simple tense used instead of present perfect tense			
No.	Past tense	Article title	Newspaper
1	Gerhard Schröder and Jacques Chirac was the lowest I ever saw.	Merkel flies in for EU's redefining moment	The Guardian
2	But the property was recently auctioned...	Live your passion ... somewhere else. Rio Threatens to evict artists for Olympics	The Guardian
3	We made something really nice here,...	Live your passion ... somewhere else. Rio Threatens to evict artists for Olympics	
4	...who joined the BBC as marketing chief,...	Mystery of executive who signed off on Newsnight	The Independent
5	That was a terrible decision.	Mystery of executive who signed off on Newsnight	
6	Israel began preparations to call up 30,000 reserve soldiers.	Militiants' missiles target Tel Aviv in revenge attack	The Independent
7	The Israeli attacks left a trail of destruction across Gaza...	Militiants' missiles target Tel Aviv in revenge attack	
8	Mr. Morsi who recalled his ambassador immediately after hostilities began,...	Militiants' missiles target Tel Aviv in revenge attack	

British newspapers - subjunctive mood				
No.	Subjunctive mood	Type	Article title	Newspaper
1	...warned that financial crises [...] should serve...	putative should	Second health trust is put on danger list for financial rescue	The Guardian
2	...suggested she should sacrifice...	putative should	Merkel flies in for EU's redefining moment	The Guardian
3	...demands from the international community that be relinquish...	subjunctive mood - mandative subjunctive	We are in state of war, says Assad as battle rages in capital	The Daily Telegraph
4	...demanded that the US allow...	subjunctive mood - mandative subjunctive	The issue isn't Obama, any more that it was Bush before him. The issue is US power	The Independent
5	...have suggested that Greece should be ejected...	putative should	This is your last chance to keep reform promises, Greece is told	The Independent
6	...ruled that Islam Afifi [...] should be detained...	putative should	Morsi pledges to curtail detention of journalists	The Guardian
7	...demanded that mine companies provide...	subjunctive/indicative mood	Mourning memorials for shot South African miners	The Guardian
8	...suggestion of proposing that the perpetrators of the tweets come forward to...	subjunctive/indicative mood	McAlpine goes to war with the BBC, ITV - and Twitter	The Independent
9	...suggestion of proposing that the perpetrators of the tweets face being sued...	subjunctive/indicative mood	McAlpine goes to war with the BBC, ITV - and Twitter	The Independent

British newspapers - subjunctive mood				
No.	Subjunctive mood	Type	Article title	Newspaper
10	"God bless a-Qassam"	subjunctive mood - formulaic subjunctive	Militants' missiles target Tel Aviv in revenge attack	The Independent

10.2 Newspapers – United States

Database of newspaper articles - United States					
No.	Article title	Date	Newspaper	No. of sentences	No. of words
1	White House struggles to reverse secrecy culture	6 Aug 2012	The Washington Post	40	909
2	NASA braces for landing of Mars rover	6 Aug 2012	The Washington Post	12	279
3	A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India	6 Aug 2012	The Washington Post	69	1252
4	Syria said to be holding American journalist	31 Aug 2012	The Washington Post	29	657
5	China pushes U.S. neutrality in Asia	6 Sept 2012	USA Today	21	489
6	Afghanistan's sad toll barely noted	13 Sept 2012	The Washington Times	28	668
7	Russia, China agree to resolution criticizing Iran	13 Sept 2012	The Washington Times	20	573
8	His middle name is Hussein	13 Sept 2012	The Washington Times	52	1042
9	Ex-ambassadors point to slow response	17 Sept 2012	USA Today	30	702
10	Obama in Ohio: Tough on China	18 Sept 2012	The Washington Times	50	1302

Database of newspaper articles - United States					
No.	Article title	Date	Newspaper	No. of sentences	No. of words
11	Afghan forces 'still need help' under the current scenario	21 Sept 2012	USA Today	90	1742
12	Despite thefts, no new Medicare IDS	11 Oct 2012	USA Today	9	259

American newspapers - spelling				
No.	Spelling	Type	Article title	Newspaper
1	organizations	ize	White House struggles to reverse secrecy culture	The Washington Post
2	center	er	White House struggles to reverse secrecy culture	
3	recognize	ize	White House struggles to reverse secrecy culture	
4	pre-programmed	gram	NASA braces for landing of Mars rover	The Washington Post
5	center	er	A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India	The Washington Post
6	defense	se	A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India	
7	liberalized	ize	A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India	
8	formalizing	ize	A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India	
9	organization	ize	Syria said to be holding American journalist	The Washington Post
10	neighbors	or	China pushes U.S. neutrality in Asia	USA Today

American newspapers - spelling				
No.	Spelling	Type	Article title	Newspaper
11	recognized	ize	China pushes U.S. neutrality in Asia	
12	program	gram	Russia, China agree to resolution criticizing Iran	The Washington Times
13	individualized	ize	His middle name is Hussein	The Washington Times
14	fulfills	ll	His middle name is Hussein	
15	womanizer	ize	Ex-ambassadors point to slow response	USA Today
16	disorganization	ize	Ex-ambassadors point to slow response	
17	apologized	ize	Ex-ambassadors point to slow response	
18	subsidizing	ize	Obama in Ohio: Tough on China	The Washington Times
19	criticize	ize	Obama in Ohio: Tough on China	
20	recognize	ize	Obama in Ohio: Tough on China	
21	program	gram	Obama in Ohio: Tough on China	
22	flavor	or	Obama in Ohio: Tough on China	
23	neighboring	or	Afghan forces 'still need help' under the current scenario	USA Today
24	recognize	ize	Afghan forces 'still need help' under the current scenario	
25	jeopardizing	ize	Afghan forces 'still need help' under the current scenario	
26	localized	ize	Afghan forces 'still need help' under the current scenario	
27	recognizes	ize	Afghan forces 'still need help' under the current scenario	
28	victimized	ize	Despite thefts, no new Medicare IDS	USA Today

American newspapers - past simple tense used instead of present perfect tense			
No.	Past tense	Article title	Newspaper
1	The landing was scheduled for 1:31 a.m.,...	NASA braces for landing of Mars rover	The Washington Post
2	The final descent was pre-programmed...	NASA braces for landing of Mars rover	
3	And staff never came...	A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India	The Washington Post
4	...other facilities were never staffed.	A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India	
5	We kept our promises,...	A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India	
6	...the Supreme Court recently disqualified a prime minster from office for contempt of court...	A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India	

7	Unal recently appeared on a pro-Syrian government television channel,...	Syria said to be holding American journalist	The Washington Post
8	Did you convert Obama from Islam to Christianity?	His middle name is Hussein	The Washington Times
9	...who met him twice,...	His middle name is Hussein	
10	It also cracked the top 100 for all free apps.	Obama in Ohio: Tough on China	The Washington Times

American newspapers - subjunctive mood

No.	Subjunctive mood	Type	Article title	Newspaper
1	...directed that its primary school be renamed...	subjunctive mood - mandative subjunctive	A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India	The Washington Post
2	...proposed that Singh come to...	subjunctive mood - mandative subjunctive	A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India	The Washington Post
3	...demanded that all journalists [...] be freed...	subjunctive mood - mandative subjunctive	Syria said to be holding American journalist	The Washington Post
4	...warned that U.S. politicians [...] should remember...	putative should	China pushes U.S. neutrality in Asia	USA Today
5	...demands that Iran stop activities...	subjunctive mood - mandative subjunctive	Russia, China agree to resolution criticizing Iran	The Washington Times

American newspapers - subjunctive mood				
No.	Subjunctive mood	Type	Article title	Newspaper
6	...requests that it be given...	subjunctive mood - mandative subjunctive	Russia, China agree to resolution criticizing Iran	The Washington Times
7	...demands that our intelligence community have the flexibility...	subjunctive mood - mandative subjunctive	His middle name is Hussein	The Washington Times
8	...demand that China stop...	subjunctive mood - mandative subjunctive	Obama in Ohio: Tough on China	The Washington Times
9	...demanded men wear...	subjunctive/indicative mood	Afghan forces 'still need help' under the current scenario	USA Today
10	...by ensuring that beneficiaries retain...	subjunctive/indicative mood	Despite thefts, no new Medicare IDS	USA Today
11	...suggested that the CMS [...] place...	subjunctive mood - mandative subjunctive	Despite thefts, no new Medicare IDS	USA Today

10.3 Sample newspaper article

31 Aug 2012, The Washington Post, page A16

Syria said to be holding American journalist

American freelance journalist Austin Tice, who has been unaccounted for in Syria for more than two weeks, has been captured and is being held in Syrian government custody, according to people familiar with the matter, including a senior diplomat.

Tice, 31, **contributed** stories to The Washington Post, McClatchy Newspapers and other publications this summer after crossing into Syria in May. His reports **offered** glimpses into conditions on the ground in areas where the fighting was fast intensifying.

The Georgetown law school student and former U.S. Marine Corps infantry officer has not been heard from since mid-August, when he **told** friends and family members that he **intended**¹ to leave Syria.

In an appearance on a Czech television station Monday, the Czech ambassador to Syria, Eva Filipi, **said** of Tice that “our sources report that he is alive and that he **was** detained by government forces on the outskirts of Damascus, where the rebels **were fighting** government troops.”

The Czech Embassy has been responsible for U.S. interests in Syria since the U.S. Embassy **was shuttered** in February amid security concerns. Filipi **said** her staff would continue to seek information about Tice’s whereabouts and welfare in the coming days.

Her account has been corroborated by others who are familiar with Tice’s whereabouts, and who **said** he had been detained near the Damascus suburb of Darayya.

[...]

Anders Gyllenhaal, McClatchy’s vice president for news, **said** Tice “is a widely respected and dedicated journalist. If he is in fact being held by the Syrian government, we would expect that he is being well cared for and that he will be quickly released.”

As fighting between troops loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and rebels has intensified in recent months, reporting in Syria has become increasingly perilous. Tice **entered**² the country at the Turkish border, a route many journalists use because the Syrian government issues few visas for journalists who wish to cover the conflict.

Ten journalists have been killed since the uprising in Syria **began** in the spring of 2011, including five foreigners, according to the advocacy **organization**³ Reporters Without Borders.

At least 30 Syrian citizen journalists have also died since the start of the conflict. More than 17,000 people — most of them civilians — have died in the Syrian civil war, according to the United Nations.

Two journalists with al-Hurra TV — Palestinian reporter Bashar Fahmi and his Turkish cameraman Cuneyt Unal — **disappeared** on Aug. 20 in Aleppo. **Unal recently appeared on a pro-Syrian government television channel**⁴, apparently under coercion.

Reporters Without Borders on Thursday called for Tice’s prompt release and **demand**⁵ **that all journalists who have been detained or kidnapped be freed immediately**.

A number of other foreigners, including at least one additional American, have been held in Syrian custody, according to people familiar with the matter in Damascus and outside Syria who asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the topic. The names of the detained individuals have not been released, and it could not be determined whether they remain in Syrian captivity.

The State Department **said** Thursday that it would continue to work through the Czech government to obtain information about Tice’s welfare and whereabouts.

Text – typical British spelling of British/ typical American spelling of American English

Text – British spelling in the American newspaper/American spelling in the British newspaper

Text – past tense

Text – example of the specific category of the past tense
(state/event/habitual/attitudinal/hypothetical/indirect speech past)

Text – past tense used instead of present perfect

Text – subjunctive mood/putative should

Text – subjunctive mood in the British newspaper/putative should in the American newspaper

¹ Past tense – indirect speech

² Past tense – event past

³ American spelling (-ize)

⁴ Past tense used instead of present perfect tense

⁵ Subjunctive mood – mandative subjunctive

10.4 British newspapers

The Daily Telegraph (right-wing)

27 Jun 2012, The Daily Telegraph, page 15

We are in state of war, says Assad as battle rages in capital

Bashar Al-Assad **admitted** Syria **was** in "a state of war" last night as rebel forces **clashed** with the military in the suburbs of Damascus and Turkey **toughened** the rules of engagement for its troops on the countries shared border.

The Syrian president **ordered** his new cabinet to focus all its efforts on crushing the 16-month uprising that has left thousands of civilians dead and shaken his grip on power. "When one is in a state of war, all our policies and capabilities must be used to secure victory." Mr. Assad **told** ministers, according to the state news agency.

As he **spoke** his elite Republican Guard troops **were involved** in fierce clashes with rebel troops just five miles from the **centre**⁶ of the capital, in a day of fighting that reportedly **left** 116 people dead.

Mr. Assad also **scorned** **demands from the international community that he relinquish power**⁷, saying the West "takes and never gives, and this has been proven at every stage".

Meanwhile, Turkey's prime minister **risked** an escalating confrontation with Syria yesterday, voicing "wrath" over the destruction of an air force jet and toughening the rules of engagement of his armed forces. Recep Tayyip Erdogan **condemned** Syria of the "heinous act" of shooting down the F-4 Phantom last Friday.

The "unarmed reconnaissance" plane from the Turkish air force had been struck by a missile inside "international airspace" without any warning, he said.

Addressing the ruling AK party in Ankara, the prime minister **added**: "The rules of engagement of the Turkish armed forces have changed given this new development. Any military element that approaches the Turkish border from Syria, by posing a security risk and danger, will be regarded as a threat and treated as a military target."

In practice, this **meant** that Turkey might go to war with Syria if last Friday's incident **were** to be repeated, **said** Umit Ozdag, an analyst of Turkish **defence**⁸ policy. "If they **were** to hit a Turkish aeroplane a second time, it could cause a war between the two countries," he **said**. "But I don't believe the Syrians want a war. They know that what they **did** was really risky."

In a series of incidents on the border earlier this year, Syrian troops repeatedly **fired** at targets inside Turkey, claiming at least one life. At the time, however, the Turkish army **did not react**. "If Syrian soldiers try to **organise**⁹ a cross border attack or try to hit targets within Turkey like they **did** a few months ago, then the Turkish army will hit targets in Syria," **said** Mr Ozdag.

Turkish officials concede the F-4 briefly **entered** Syrian airspace, but the crew are said to have **realised** their mistake and changed course accordingly. A missile then **destroyed** the aircraft.

At first, Mr Erdogan **declined** to condemn Syria, waiting for the facts to be established. Yesterday he said: "Our mild manners do not mean we are a tame lamb. Everybody should know that Turkey's wrath is just as strong and devastating as its friendship is valuable."

By shooting down the jet, Syria had exposed itself to greater pressure, **said** Anthony Cordesman, head of strategy at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

"Syria has almost invited Turkey to become even more proactive against it and against the Assad regime. Erdogan is not someone who's famous for backing down," he **said**.

Turkey, a member of Nato, **invoked** Article IV of the North Atlantic Treaty, convening the alliance's ambassadors in Brussels to discuss the incident. This move **fell** short of triggering Article V, which binds all Nato members to defend any that are attacked.

Anders Fogh Rasmussen, the Nato secretary-general, **described** the downing of the jet as "another example of the Syrian authorities' disregard for international norms, peace, security and human life".

Kofi Annan, the international envoy to Syria, is trying to **organise** a peace conference for Saturday which would include the Security Council and regional countries. Sergei Lavrov, the Russian foreign minister, **indicated** that he would attend and stated Iran's participation **was** crucial to the success of a meeting, but Britain and America publicly oppose Tehran's involvement.

27 Jun 2012, The Daily Telegraph, page 15

The 'dark wards' prisoners left to die, says military doctor who fled

Syrian prisoners **were left** to die in military hospital 'dark rooms', while others **were drugged** to stop them speaking to international observers, a defecting military doctor has told The Daily Telegraph.

In his first media interview since fleeing, the doctor – who **was** head of the intensive care unit in an Aleppo military hospital – **gave** a chilling eyewitness account of secret wards where he **said** patients **were tortured** or **sent** to their death.

"Important arrested patients, those that **had** more information to reveal, **had to** be healed. Those that **were** useless to them **were sent** to a secret ward that we **nicknamed** "the dark room" where they **were tortured, eliminated** or **left** to die."

The doctor, who for security reasons can only be identified as Ahmed, **worked** in military hospitals in Aleppo, Deraa and the suburbs of Damascus.

Patients **were kept** in "dire" conditions with their hands and feet handcuffed to the beds and their eyes blindfolded in windowless wards, often in a basement.

Deprived of antibiotics and painkillers, and often left to lie in their own **faeces**¹⁰, many of the patients **sported** gaping infected wounds.

⁶ British spelling (-re)

⁷ Subjunctive mood – mandative subjunctive

⁸ British spelling (-ce)

⁹ British spelling (-ise)

¹⁰ British spelling (-ae-)

"They **were left** to slowly die, or immediately **killed** with a calcium injection. It makes the heart beat slow down until the body spasms," **said** the doctor.

"In Aleppo I was treating a patient who had been beaten with a rod, I **recognised** the marks on his body. Twelve ribs **were broken** and his shoulder and legs. The Commander Major General Nazir al-Nomen **came** to me and **said**: 'Why haven't you killed this patient until now?'"

The ward in Aleppo's military hospital **was** off limits to most staff, with doctors requiring special permission from the head of the hospital or of the city's military police.

Doctor Ahmed **said** he **gained** access to the room for the first time in February this year when he **was asked** to be part of a cover-up in the face of a visit by Arab League monitors.

As the only **anaesthetist** in the hospital, the doctor **said** he **was ordered** by his superiors to drug all the hospital's prisoner patients so they **were** unconscious and would not bear witness to the observers.

"The hospital commander **called** me into his office where he **sat** with two generals. They **said** I **was** loyal and trustworthy and that I should help fight these attacks. 'It is your turn now doctor' they **told** me."

Knowing that refusal **meant** imprisonment, and fearing reprisals on his family, Doctor Ahmed **said** that he **agreed**.

"Of 200 patients we **had** 27 arrested men spread around the hospital, and 25 in the black room. I **injected** the 52 people with (the tranquiliser) Ketamine so they would fall unconscious.

"Three Arab League observers **came** with 40 men from the Syrian security. The guards **created** confusion so that no one **was interviewed** and no photos **were allowed**.

"I remember writing that day to my wife telling her I **was** distraught at what I had had to do. I **told** her I had drugged 52 people."

Amnesty International **said** last night that the charred bodies of three young medics **were found** in Aleppo a week after they **were arrested** while working at a field hospital.

In an earlier incident, Doctor Ahmed **recalled** visiting a similar ward in a military hospital in Deraa where he **said** he **witnessed** security forces beating the wounded patients.

"There **were** forty men who had been wounded and arrested at popular demonstrations. I **saw** an officer beating a man who **was chained** to the bed, he had been shot and blood was pooling on the floor."

He added: "If any doctor even **looked** disturbed he would be sent immediately to the military detention **centre** in Damascus."

22 Aug 2012, The Daily Telegraph, page 4

Medallists 'could miss out on honours'

Some British **medallists**¹¹ at the Olympics and Paralympics will not be **honoured** by the Queen in the new year, a former England football manager, who now sits on an **honours**¹² committee, has warned.

The unprecedented number of champions at the Games also means they will receive different **honours** because of strict quotas on the types of **honour** for sports stars.

The vast majority of **medallists** and every gold medal winner at the 2008 Beijing Olympics **were honoured** in the 2009 New Year **honours**.

However Graham Taylor, who managed the England team from 1990 to 1993 and is now a member of the committee which nominates sports stars for **honours**, **said** the success at the 2012 Games **meant** that this **was** unlikely to be repeated and some athletes would be left disappointed.

Yesterday The Daily Telegraph **disclosed** how Britain's Olympic gold winners **were** likely to lose out to mandarins in the New Year **honours** list because of a quota system which sets out how many **honours** can be shared out across public life.

More than 100 Britons **won** medals at the London 2012 Olympics and dozens more Paralympians are expected to follow suit in the coming weeks.

Mr Taylor **said** the next meeting of the committee in six weeks' time would face some difficult decisions — not least because public expectations had been raised after a slew of **honours** following the successful 2004 and 2008 Games.

He **told** The Daily Telegraph: "There is a chance that if you **were** at silver or bronze you will not get an award."

The 29 gold medals won at the Games **meant** that not every champion would receive the same degree of **honour** — and some might not receive anything.

22 Aug 2012, The Daily Telegraph, page 4

Prince's double Olympic victory: first Bolt, now champion swimmer

He has already beaten the world's fastest man on land in dubious circumstances, and now Prince Harry can lay claim to an equally unlikely victory in the water, after racing Ryan Lochte at a Las Vegas pool party.

The third in line to the throne **took** on the Olympic swimming gold **medallist** as the pair **larked** about during a summer break at the US resort.

But just as in his light-hearted sprint contest with Usain Bolt, he **needed** his opponent to be given a significant handicap in order to allow him to claim first place. The Prince **was said** to have won the race after an Essex tourist **clung** on to the legs of Lochte, a five-time Olympic gold **medallist**.

It comes five months after the prince **challenged** the Jamaican sprinter Bolt to a 30-metre race in Kingston during his official tour of the Caribbean, discovering that the only sure-fire way to beat him **was** by cheating.

The Prince **waited** until the athlete's back **was turned** before dashing off down the track, throwing his arms wide in celebration and grinning from ear to ear as he **crossed** the finish line, with a bemused Bolt looking on. The Prince **said** he would be "busy" when challenged to a rematch at London 2012 - where the Jamaican **destroyed** the field in the Olympics stadium to claim gold medals in the 100m and 200m races, as well as in the 4x100m relay. Meanwhile, in the Aquatics Centre, Lochte was beating fellow American swimmer Michael Phelps to win his own gold in the 400m individual medley.

¹¹ British spelling (-ll-)

¹² British spelling (-our)

Earlier this week, Lochte, 28, was finally letting his hair down during a night at the exclusive XS nightclub in Las Vegas, a palm tree-lined venue with its own swimming pools, when he **was challenged** to a race by the Prince, 27, who has been enjoying a summer break in the city with friends.

The New York Daily News website **reported** that the prince **dived** into the pool at 3am still wearing his jeans. It **posted** online footage of Lochte beating him in a breaststroke race, before raising his hands in the air and hugging him.

But in another race, described by Adam Alely, a holidaymaker from Essex who **was** at the club with his friend Tom Sims, the Prince apparently **beat** the Olympian. Alely **claimed** that he had thrown the Prince in the pool, adding: "Harry **won** the swim because Simmo was holding Lochte's legs."

A Clarence House spokesman **declined** to comment, as the Prince **was** on a private break. It is understood that he will return to Britain in a few days to resume his royal and military duties.

19 Nov 2012, The Daily Telegraph, page 1

Missile kills four children from one family in Gaza

AN Israeli missile **killed** at least 11 Palestinian civilians, including four women and four siblings, in Gaza yesterday in an attack on a Hamas official that **brought** a three-storey family apartment block down.

International pressure for a ceasefire **seemed** certain to mount after the deadliest single incident in five days of Israeli strikes on Gaza and Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel.

Israel **said** it **remained** ready to launch a possible ground invasion of the Hamas-run enclave, but **was** also prepared to consider a ceasefire – sending an envoy to Egypt for preliminary talks last night. President Barack Obama **said** that while Israel **had** a right to defend itself, it would be "preferable" to avoid a military thrust into the Gaza Strip.

William Hague, the Foreign Secretary, **said** such a move would cause the Jewish state to lose "international support and sympathy".

A spokesman for the Hamas-run interior ministry **said** the 11 **were killed** when a missile from an F16 warplane **flattened** the home of the El Dallo family. The Israeli military **said** a Hamas official had been the target. Mohammed Dallo, the head of the family who **neighbours said was** a shop owner, **survived**.

Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli prime minister, **said** he had assured world leaders Israel was doing its utmost to avoid civilian casualties.

In other raids Gaza City media buildings **were hit**. Eight journalists **were hurt** and facilities of Al-Aqsa TV and Sky News **were damaged**.

Gaza militants **launched** dozens of rockets into Israel and **targeted** its commercial capital, Tel Aviv.

THE FOUR youngest members of the El Dallo family **were** the first to arrive at the Shifa hospital morgue.

Sara, seven, Jamal, six, Yusef, four, and Ibrahim, two, the children of reported Hamas member Mohamed El Dallo, **were laid** two abreast on metal trays, **swathed** in white. Only their small, distorted faces **were left** exposed to the local camera crews, jostling to capture the latest victims of Israel's Operation Pillar of Defence on film.

Nine members of the family and two **neighbours were** inside the family home when the Israeli missile **struck**, fired from an F16 jet shortly before 3pm yesterday. Every one of them **was** killed, all women and children. Mr Dallo, who **was** not at home, **survived**.

As Hamas police **struggled** to control furious friends and relatives attempting to force their way into the morgue to see the bodies, Palestinian emergency teams were still digging through the rubble of the home on Nasser Street, in central Gaza City.

Ten of the victims had already been found but a 20-year-old woman was still missing underneath the dirt and stone of her home.

The devastating strike is the bloodiest single incident of this five-day old conflict. It **was launched** as optimistic reports from anonymous Israeli military officials **circulated** in the local media suggesting that crisis talks taking place in Cairo may soon produce a ceasefire.

Three more Palestinians **were killed** in strikes late yesterday evening, bringing the day's toll to 29, the deadliest day so far of Israel's campaign against the Gaza Strip.

As ambulances carrying more bodies of Dallo family members **raced** into Shifa hospital, Salama Maroof, a senior Hamas spokesman, **told** The Daily Telegraph there **was** little chance that hopes of a truce could be **realised** when Israeli strikes **were** continuing with such a human cost. "Israel has killed a family of 11 people this evening, and many, many more. If Israel wants to stop its aggression, then we can talk. But before then, how could we consider any deal?" Mr Maroof **said**.

Major Guy Spigelman, a spokesman for the Israeli Defence Forces, **confirmed** that jets had struck the home of a Hamas official in the afternoon, adding that there would be an investigation into the multiple deaths of civilians.

"We never deliberately target civilians," Major Spigelman **said**. "We will be investigating this incident but I would like to remind you that we have carried out more than 1,000 missions [in the past four days]."

He could give no more information about Mr Dallo's activities within Hamas, which is the elected government in Gaza but also has a military wing. The attack **supported** reports that Israel's target list had been expanded in the past couple of days to include more homes of Hamas members.

Shehda El Dallo, a relative of the family, **rushed** to the site having heard the blast from his home nearby. He **found** the two-storey house levelled, plumes of dust and smoke rising from the foundations. A truck parked outside had been rendered a mangled wreck of metal.

Mr Dallo's grandfather **lived** next door. The force of the explosion had ripped the outside wall from his house, exposing the living room. Perched on the wreckage of his furniture, Shehda El Dallo **described** the painstaking process of pulling bodies from the wreckage.

"The four children **were found** together. Another woman, we don't know if it **was** their mother yet, **was** in the front of the house. Their grandmother **was found** somewhere here," he said, pointing vaguely into the mess of concrete, plaster and metal.

A small group of men from the **neighbourhood stood** in the middle of the tree-lined residential street, peering past emergency vehicles to watch the diggers at work. No one could say why the house had been targeted. There **was** no police station nearby, no Hamas officials or headquarters in the area.

They **said** Mohammed El Dallo **owned** a grocery store in the **centre** of town. "He **wasn't** politically affiliated," his relative **insisted**. "They **were** just a normal family. This is just a normal street. They **said** the kids had been watching TV when the bomb **hit**."

In a separate air strike, the Israelis **said** they **targeted** Ihiar Bia, a rocket manufacturing expert affiliated with Hamas, in Gaza City at 2.30pm yesterday. It is not known if he **was killed**. More than 60 Palestinians have now been killed in Israel's aerial bombardment of Gaza, most of them civilians, many of them women and children, according to the Hamas-run ministry of health.

The morning **saw** the funerals of three-year-old Tamir Salam and his two-year-old sister, killed as they slept in bed with their parents when their house **was hit** in an F16 strike at 2am. They **were** only children of Salam Ibrahim and his wife. "I was sleeping, everything **happened** so suddenly. I **heard** the blast then the bedroom wall **collapsed** on our bed," he **said**.

When the smoke **cleared**, he **saw** that his children **were dead**. He **said** he had gone to bed feeling safe for the first time in days, having been buoyed by news of progress in peace talks in Cairo.

The Israeli military **confirmed** that no rockets **were fired** from Gaza into Israel between 12am and 7am yesterday. But while relative calm **took** hold across Israeli skies, it **was** a night of heavy bombardment in Gaza, with more than an hour of heavy artillery fire from Israeli naval boats at targets along the Gaza coastline. Yesterday morning, the sirens were sounding in Tel Aviv and Ashqelon again.

According to Mr Maroof, Hamas is negotiating for more than just the cessation of Israeli air strikes. Any resolution to this conflict would require Israel to lift its five-year blockade of the Gaza Strip.

"The Egyptian president has said that we are nearing a deal but the situation here on the ground is very different. Today 20 people **were killed**, most of them women," Mr Maroof said. "Israel **started** this war with its assassination of Ahmed Al-Jaabari (the Hamas military commander). If the Israeli government agrees to stop this violence, then we can start to talk."

The Independent (neutral)

23 Aug 2012, The Independent, page 16

The Issue isn't Obama, any more than it was Bush before him. The issue is power

How easy it **was** to **scrutinise** US power when George W. Bush **was** in office. After all, it **was** difficult to defend an administration packed with such repulsive characters, like Dick Cheney and Donald Rumsfeld, whose attitude towards the rest of the world amounted to thuggish contempt.

Many will shudder remembering that dark era: the naked human pyramids accompanied by grinning US service personnel in Abu Ghraib; the orange-suited prisoners in Guantanamo, kneeling in submission at the feet of US soldiers; the murderous assault on the Iraqi city of Fallujah. By the end of Bush's term in office, **favourable** opinion of the US had plummeted even in allied countries, and those desperate for a Republican rout in the presidential elections **ranged** from resolute socialists to committed Tories.

It **was** a bad dream that **went** on for eight years, and no wonder much of the world is still breathing a sigh of relief. But US foreign policy these days escapes scrutiny. In part, that is down a well-grounded terror of the only viable alternative to Barack Obama: the increasingly deranged US right. A deliberate shift to a softer, more diplomatic tone has helped, too. But it is also the consequence of a strategic failure on the part of many critics of US foreign policy in the Bush era. As protesters **marched** in European cities with placards of Bush underneath "World's No 1 Terrorist", the anti-war crusade **became personalised**. Bush **seemed** to be the problem, and an understanding of US power – the nature of which remains remarkably consistent from president to president – **was lost**.

This week, the UN's Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Counter-Terrorism, **Ben Emmerson QC, demanded that the US allow independent investigation over its use of unmanned drones**¹³, or the UN would be forced to step in. These drones target militants, it is claimed, but according to a study by the Bureau of Investigative Journalism, between 282 and 585 civilians have died in Pakistan as a result. In one such attack in North Waziristan in 2009, several villagers **died** in an attempt to rescue victims of a previous strike.

According to Pakistan's US Ambassador, Sherry Rehman, the drone war "**radicalises** foot soldiers, tribes and entire villages in our region". After the latest strike this week, Pakistan's foreign ministry **said** the attacks **were** "a violation of its sovereignty and territorial integrity and are in contravention of international law". Its Parliament has passed a resolution condemning the drone war. It is armed aggression by the Obama administration, pure and simple.

If it was happening under the Bush presidency, the opposition would be vociferous and widespread.

27 Jun 2012, The Independent, page 6

This is your last chance to keep reform promises, Greece is told

The German Chancellor Angela Merkel yesterday **gave** a frosty reception to Greece's request for more time to meet the conditions of its sovereign bailout and the Eurogroup president, Jean-Claude Juncker, **warned** the country **was** on its "last chance" to make good on its reform promises.

The Greek Prime Minister, Antonis Samaras, **met** Mr Juncker in Athens yesterday as he **kicked off** his diplomatic campaign to secure more "breathing space" for his country to meet its commitments to cut spending, collect more taxes and reform its **labour** markets. "The ball is in the Greek court – in fact this is the last chance and Greek citizens have to know this," **said** Mr Juncker at a press conference with Mr Samaras.

Mr Samaras, who has led Greece's coalition government since June, will travel to Berlin on Friday to meet Ms Merkel to make the same request for leeway. He hopes to persuade the country's European partners to give it an extra two years to implement its commitments on the grounds that the economy is shrinking more quickly than anyone **expected**.

"All we want is a bit of 'air to breathe' to get the economy running and to increase state income," he **wrote** in Germany's Bild newspaper yesterday. Mr Samaras also **played down** suggestions that Greece would be asking for an additional

¹³ Subjunctive mood – mandative subjunctive

bailout on top of the €170bn pledged to it by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other European governments since May 2010 to avoid bankruptcy.

Yet Ms Merkel **warned** that no decision would be taken over Greece before September. "We await the report of the Troika," she **said**, referring to the inspectors from the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the IMF who must judge whether Greece is living up to its promises.

The Troika is due to decide next month whether the next instalment of the bailout package, worth €31.5bn, should be released. Mr Samaras **said** Greece could survive if the money **was delayed** by a month, but not much longer. "Theoretically we could bridge the time. But if we don't get the tranche at all Greece is broke," he **told** the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* newspaper.

Greece's economy is in its fifth successive year of recession and the unemployment rate has hit 23 per cent. The IMF has forecast that it will contract by 4.7 per cent in 2012. But Athens thinks the slump over the year will be closer to 7 per cent.

Mr Samaras has identified €11.5bn in spending cuts to be delivered between 2013 and 2015 to bring Greece's budget deficit below 3 per cent of GDP. But the Troika is also reported to be on the verge of ordering Athens to identify a further €2bn in cuts to meet its deficit reduction commitments, something which has prompted Mr Samaras to request more time.

Ms Merkel, meanwhile, is under growing domestic pressure not to approve more fiscal leeway. Some members of her own governing **coalition have suggested that Greece should be ejected from the single currency**¹⁴, casting doubt over whether she could get assistance for Greece past her own parliament. But some analysts have suggested that Ms Merkel might be able to assist Greece without holding a new vote in the Bundestag. "Within the existing Greek **programme** envelope, the EFSF [the European bailout fund] could disburse aid instalments earlier to cover additional near-term financing gaps. Furthermore, interest rates on official aid could be cut, or payments postponed," said Christian Schulz of Berenberg Bank.

After meeting Ms Merkel on Friday, Mr Samaras will meet the French president, François Hollande, who is believed to be more sympathetic to Greece's request to be granted more time to meet its commitments.

Now Germany can borrow for nothing

Nervous investors **parked** their cash with Germany for nothing yesterday, with Berlin attracting reasonable demand at a sale of €4bn of new interest-free two-year bonds. The IOUs **came** with a zero coupon – meaning Germany pays no interest to the holder – for the second time this year, reflecting a fall in the country's borrowing costs to historic lows as the euro zone debt crisis **threatened** to engulf Spain and Italy.

While the prospect of the European Central Bank buying Spanish and Italian bonds to curb the two countries' borrowing costs has improved appetite for riskier assets, doubts over the size and timing of any intervention has ensured underlying demand for German debt.

12 Nov 2012, The Independent, page 4

Mystery of executive who signed off on Newsnight

BBC **was** last night refusing to disclose the name of the board member.

Lord Patten **said** yesterday that he was considering the report by Ken MacQuarrie, the head of BBC Scotland, and that some BBC staff could lose their jobs as a result of its findings.

"We are looking into a report into how that Newsnight **programme**¹⁵ **was made**," he **told** Channel 4 News. "We've also got other reports, as you know, by the former head of Sky [Nick Pollard] and a distinguished judge [Dame Janet Smith], and they will involve us in making some tough decisions and those decisions may involve people's jobs."

The BBC Trust **walked** into more controversy last night after confirming that Mr Entwistle would receive a full 12-month's salary of £450,000 in lieu of notice. John Whittingdale, the chairman of the Commons Culture, Media and Sport Committee, **said** he could not see the justification for such a large pay-off.

Senior BBC sources are expecting the Director-General's role to be split in two following Mr Entwistle's obvious difficulty in coping with the fallout from the Jimmy Savile scandal and editorial failings by Newsnight while trying to manage his other responsibilities.

Mr Entwistle's successor could have a narrower role, with responsibility for the BBC's journalism being passed to a deputy. The BBC previously **operated** such a system but **came** under fire for having too many senior managers. Lord Patten **said** yesterday that the next leader of the "very large and complex **organisation**" would need "the right sort of support".

Following Mr Entwistle's departure, the head of BBC Worldwide, Tim Davie, has assumed the role of acting Director-General. It has emerged that Mr Davie, a former executive with the food company PepsiCo **who joined the BBC as marketing chief**¹⁶, **was** head of the editorial chain of command for the controversial Newsnight story, although it is understood that the matter was not referred to him.

It **was** signed off by a member of the management board and although they have been named in the MacQuarrie report, the BBC would not identify them yesterday.

Meanwhile the futures of many of its senior executives, including the director of news, Helen Boaden, and her deputy, Stephen Mitchell, remain uncertain. It is understood that the pair had been taken off the editorial chain handling the Newsnight story due to their connections to the same **programme's** Savile investigation, which **dealt** with similar subject matter.

Lord Patten **rejected** the idea that he should have taken action after seeing a tweet from Iain Overton, the head of the Bureau of Investigative Journalism – which **worked** with the BBC on the investigation – predicting a story about "a very senior political figure who is a **paedophile**". Mr Overton **was** yesterday discussing his future with the Bureau's trust body.

Lord Patten **wrote** to BBC staff yesterday saying he **believed** the corporation **was** the greatest broadcaster in the world. "The vast majority of BBC staff have nothing whatsoever to do with this sorry episode and I regret they are having to share in the pain," he **said**.

Mr Whittingdale **added** senior staff who **were involved** must also be held to account. "If George Entwistle **was** unaware of the **programme**, then somebody below him **took** the decision it **was** right to broadcast it," Mr Whittingdale **said**. "That **was** a terrible decision."¹⁷

¹⁴ Putative should

¹⁵ British spelling (-gramme)

¹⁶ Past tense used instead of present perfect (he is still working there)

¹⁷ Past tense used instead of present perfect (the decision still affects the present)

14 Nov 2012, The Independent, page 5

British sailor caught trying to spy for Russia

A Royal Navy submariner who **tried** to pass on secret information to Russian agents **was remanded** in custody last night after admitting his crime.

Petty-Officer Edward Devenney, 30, **was caught** in a MI5 sting after trying to hand over classified information that could be useful to the enemy, the Old Bailey **heard** yesterday.

The court **heard** how the non-commissioned officer had been willing to betray the movements of Royal Navy crews by passing on code-breaking technology as well as operational details relating to HMS Trafalgar and the sailing dates of two nuclear submarines.

He **contacted** a foreign embassy to try to pass to the Russians the details of the **programs**¹⁸ used to encrypt secret information. But the two people he eventually **met** **were** British Security Service officers posing as foreign agents and covertly filming the encounter.

During a brief hearing yesterday, Devenney, **spoke** only to confirm his name and enter pleas. The sailor from Northern Ireland **pleaded** guilty to collecting information for a purpose prejudicial to the safety or interests of the state, which could be useful to an enemy, between 18 November last year and 7 March this year.

He also **admitted** a second charge that as a Petty-Officer he “wilfully **misconducted** himself” by communicating with a foreign power with the intention of harming the Royal Navy.

But he **denied** a count of communicating information to another person, contrary to the Official Secrets Act, which prosecutor Mark Dennis QC **said was** now **reflected** in the misconduct charge. The barrister **told** the court that Devenney **accepted** that he **attempted** to pass on secrets of the subs’ movements to the two men he **thought were** Russian agents. “The subject matter of count two [the communicating information charge] is information which he **gave** during a conversation with two men he **believed** were Russian Secret Service agents,” he **said**. “Firstly, it relates to an operation that **was undertaken** by a submarine, HMS Trafalgar, and secondly it relates to the dates for the coming and going of two nuclear submarines.”

While Devenney **was caught** before any harm could be done, Mr Dennis **said**: “One of the issues is the damage or potential damage –and realistically it is potential damage – **caused** to the national interest.”

Devenney had a promising career in the Navy, had been sponsored through a degree in electronic engineering and passed exams required for a commissioned officer’s course.

Yet before his arrest he **was** obsessively posting as many as 40 tweets a day on his Twitter page, revealing details on everything from British nuclear capability to his operational duties.

On 26 January he **wrote**: “Bomb Iran? Am not bothered, but I’ll probably be in the submarine that fires the missiles!” A week earlier he **posted**, “Drop Trident? I’m on a V boat at the mo. Capability is absolutely essential to British military influence”, before revealing during a public discussion with another Twitter user that the electronic warfare (EW) system aboard his submarine **was broken**.

Mr Justice Saunders **remanded** him in custody until a hearing of the case on 12 December, when he will be sentenced. The judge **said** he **hoped** as much of the evidence as possible could be heard in open court but **said** some of it might have to be behind closed doors.

16 Nov 2012, The Independent, page 2

McAlpine goes to war with the BBC, ITV – and Twitter

Corporation forced to pay Tory grandee £185,000 – and he’s got a hit list of social networkers who **accused** him of being **paedophile**.

Lawyers acting for Lord McAlpine have drawn up a list of Twitter users – including the wife of the House of Commons Speaker, Sally Bercow – who face being sued for their part in falsely identifying the Tory grandee as a **paedophile**.

Tweeters **played** an integral role in the former Conservative Party treasurer being wrongly linked to child abuse in North Wales care homes, following a BBC Newsnight **programme** this month which **made** allegations against an unnamed individual.

The **programme** **sparked** a storm of speculation on Twitter and other online outlets with several former politicians being smeared. Some messages referring to Lord McAlpine **were retweeted** more than 100,000 times.

Last night Lord McAlpine **was reported** to have agreed to a £185,000 settlement from the BBC.

His lawyer, Andrew Reid, has now made **the unorthodox suggestion of proposing that the perpetrators of the tweets come forward to agree a settlement fee**¹⁹ – **or face being sued**²⁰.

Mr Reid **identified** the prolific Twitter user Ms Bercow as one of those who is being pursued for defamation. “I would say Mrs Bercow **was** quite well-known. She has not yet been in touch and **apologised**, and I’m most surprised she has not done so,” he **said**.

“Hopefully she will do so and we will reach an agreement because we are listing people.” Mr Reid **said** that if she **did not respond** Lord McAlpine would issue legal proceedings. “Let it be a lesson,” he **said**.

The legal actions could help more clearly to define the relationship between social media and defamation laws, reversing the growing trend of “trial by Twitter” by emphasising the fact that users of the website are not immune from being sued for libel.

Soon after **rumours** **began** circling online about the identity of Newsnight’s unnamed subject, Ms Bercow could not resist tweeting: “Why is Lord McAlpine trending? *innocent face*”

After it **emerged** that Newsnight’s story had been wrong and that its chief witness Steve Messham had erroneously identified Lord McAlpine, Ms Bercow **recognised** that she might be in trouble.

“Belatedly read McAlpine statement. Am TOTAL, irresponsible eejit for mentioning fact that he was trending on my timeline last Sun. So sorry,” she **announced** on her **favourite** medium, revealing that she was anticipating legal repercussions.

¹⁸ American spelling in the British newspapers

¹⁹ Subjunctive/indicative mood

²⁰ Subjunctive/indicative mood

"Now counting coins in piggy bank coz Lord McAlpine will probably sue my a---. For pointing out that he **was** a trending topic. FML – am **donut**²¹. Am VERY sorry for inadvertently fanning flames. But I tweet as me, forgetting that to some of u I am Mrs b----- Speaker."

Yesterday as it **emerged** that she **was** indeed facing legal action, the Speaker's wife **returned** to the social media site to give her reaction to her followers. "I guess I'd better get some legal advice then. Still maintain **was** not a **libellous** tweet – just foolish," she **said**. "Anyway, hey ho. Best not comment any more 'til seen a lawyer."

Among other prolific Twitter users to have linked Lord McAlpine to the Newsnight story **was** George Monbiot, a high-profile columnist for The Guardian. Monbiot, who **wrote** to the peer saying that he **felt** "worse about this than anything else I have ever done", **issued** a statement online claiming that he had been trying to speak up for the oppressed.

"I **felt** a powerful compulsion to do what I have done throughout my career: to help the voiceless be heard.

16 Nov 2012, The Independent, page 8

Militants' missiles target Tel Aviv in revenge attack

Three Israelis die as Palestinians launch attacks after Hamas commander killed in air strike.

Just 24 hours after the boast by the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, that Israel had crippled the long-range missile capabilities of Palestinian militants in Gaza, two Fajr5 rockets fired by Islamic Jihad **landed** yesterday just south of Israel's densely populated commercial heartland.

There **was** no damage or injuries, but sirens **wailed** across Tel Aviv for the first time since Saddam Hussein's Scud attacks in 1991, sending surprised residents hurrying to shelters. Israeli military officials **warned** Tel Aviv residents to expect "an unquiet night".

Yesterday morning, Palestinian militants **drew** their first blood in Israel's Operation Defensive Pillar when three Israelis **were killed** when a rocket hit an apartment building in Kiryat Malachi, 20 miles from Gaza – one of more than 120 rockets fired from Gaza since the conflict **erupted** on Wednesday with the assassination of the Hamas military chief in an Israeli air strike.

Israel **continued** its ferocious barrage of attacks on more than 200 targets across the Hamas-controlled enclave and **began** moving bulldozers and tanks into position on the border for a possible land invasion. At least 15 Palestinians have died in the current wave of violence, with dozens more **left** injured. Among those killed **was** Omar, the 11-month-old son of the BBC's Gaza-based picture editor, Jihad Masharawi.

"I hope that Hamas and the other terrorist **organisations** in Gaza **got** the message," Mr Netanyahu **told** reporters in Tel Aviv. "If not, Israel is prepared to take whatever action is necessary to defend our people."

Israel **began** preparations to call up 30,000 reserve soldiers²². Defence Minister Ehud Barak said Hamas "would pay a heavy price" for firing rockets towards Tel Aviv. The Israeli attacks **left** a trail of destruction across Gaza²³ and **sent** plumes of smoke soaring into the air. A Hamas spokesman, Fawzi Barhoum, **said** Israel would also be punished "for this open war which they **initiated**".

There **was** some respite after noon prayers, when a crowd of several thousand **marched** from the Al- Omari Mosque in the **centre** of Gaza City to a cemetery in the Sheikh Radwan **neighbourhood**, carrying the body of the Hamas leader Ahmed al-Jabari. They **were accompanied** by dozens of armed men who **fired** weapons into the air and **chanted** "God is great" and "**God bless al-Qassam**"²⁴, the name of the Hamas military wing.

Earlier, hundreds **attended** the funerals of four children killed in Israeli attacks on Wednesday. Then it **was** back to routine, with militants firing rockets from civilian areas all over Gaza City.

The Egyptian President, Mohammed Morsi, led Arab calls of condemnation and **demanding** urgent action from the United Nations and the international community. "The Israelis must **realise** that this aggression is unacceptable and would only lead to instability in the region and would negatively and greatly impact the security of the region," Mr Morsi **said**.

His office **announced** that his Prime Minister, Hisham Kandil, would visit Gaza for the first time with other senior officials in a demonstration of solidarity with the embattled Palestinians. Mr Morsi, who **recalled** his ambassador **immediately** after hostilities **began**²⁵, may hold the key to mediating a ceasefire if he threatens to cancel the 1979 Camp David peace treaty that Israel regards as a cornerstone of its security policy.

In Kiryat Malachi, the rocket there **destroyed** a fourth-floor apartment, killing two Israeli men and a woman from different families. Two others **were** seriously **hurt** in the building.

Sirens **sounded** across the south of Israel every few minutes as rockets **rained** down in a radius of 40 miles from the border with Gaza. More than 20 rockets **were fired** at Ashkelon, 13 miles north of the enclave, of which at least 17 **were destroyed** in mid-air by Israel's Iron Dome air anti-missile system.

Paz Azaran, a 17-year-old schoolgirl from Ashkelon, **welcomed** the Israeli military operation. "We're standing behind our army and we are very proud."

The Guardian (left-wing)

27 Jun 2012, The Guardian, page 6

Second health trust is put on danger list for financial rescue

²¹ American spelling in the British newspapers (but it is a citation of the tweet)

²² Past tense used instead of present perfect (the preparations are still going on)

²³ Past tense used instead of present perfect (the trail is still visible)

²⁴ Subjunctive mood – formulaic subjunctive

²⁵ Past tense used instead of present perfect (the hostilities are still going on)

An NHS trust which is today told by inspectors that it has "some way to go" before it is delivering an acceptable level of care has been identified by the government as the next one that may be placed in a form of special measures.

As **the BMA warned that financial crises in a series of trusts should serve as a "wake up call"**²⁶, sources at the Department of Health **said** the Barking, Havering and Redbridge NHS Trust in north-east London could be placed in the regime designed to rescue failing trusts.

That follows the announcement on Monday by the health secretary, Andrew Lansley, that South London Healthcare Trust, which runs three hospitals in south-east London, is on course to become the first trust to be placed in the "unsustainable providers regime".

Ministers **blamed** the decision on a £150m deficit dating back to a £2.5bn deal, signed by the last government under the private finance initiative (PFI), to rebuild the Queen Elizabeth hospital in Woolwich and the Princess Royal University hospital in Orpington.

The impact of PFI payments will be highlighted on Wednesday when the Care Quality Commission (CQC) watchdog warns that the Barking, Havering and Redbridge trust is struggling to meet its financial commitments. Unlike the South London trust, whose treatment record is relatively strong, the north-east London body is also told it is failing to deliver proper standards of care.

The A&E department at Queen's hospital, Romford, which is part of the trust, is still causing concern after a history of poor performance at the trust, including in maternity services, complaints handling and leadership, according to the commission. Although some improvements have been made after more than two years of CQC concern, the trust still has "some way to go", according to the watchdog.

The trust has changed operating structures in recent months but the CQC says more needs to be done on staffing.

The Barking trust has to find nearly £50m this year on its PFI deal agreed in January 2004, but is one of seven, including South London NHS trust now being allowed to go bust, that were originally offered grants from a £1.5bn Department of Health pot designed to help those in difficulty meet their PFI costs without cutting services to patients. But they have to meet strict conditions to get the money.

The CQC says of the Queen's A&E department: "Delays in admission due to 'blockages' in the system and lack of beds throughout the hospital cause backlog of patients within the department. The hospital also continues in their struggle to recruit middle grade doctors and reliance is placed on using doctors from locum agencies. Overall this is exposing patients to unnecessary and increased risk of poor care."

The trust's chief executive, Averil Dongworth, said: "We've made good progress, but I agree with the CQC that we still have some way to go in making improvements that can be sustained for the future."

27 Jun 2012, The Guardian, page 14

Merkel flies in for EU's redefining moment

Chancellor Angela Merkel goes to Paris on Wednesday to try to strike a Franco-German deal with President François Hollande amid deep-seated differences at what has been described as Europe's defining moment.

With the two key EU countries split for the first time in 30 months of single currency and sovereign debt crisis, José Manuel Barroso, head of the European Commission **laid** bare the high stakes in play at an EU summit in Brussels on Thursday as well as the high frictions between Germany and France.

Merkel's first visit to the Élysée Palace under its new occupant comes on the eve of what is being billed as a crucial Brussels summit which, apart from the immediate financial dilemmas, is to wrestle with a radical blueprint aimed at turning the eurozone into a fully-fledged political federation within a decade.

"We must articulate the vision of where Europe must go, and a concrete path for how to get there," **warned** Barroso. But he **was** unsure "whether the urgency of this is fully understood in all the capitals of the EU".

Since his election last month, France's socialist leader has quickly emerged as the most formidable challenger to German formulas for Europe's salvation after two years of Berlin largely dictating the EU response to the crisis.

Merkel is feeling bruised, having just withstood two unusual attempts by fellow leaders to ambush her and get Berlin to hand over its credit cards to write off what they see as other countries' profligacy.

In Mexico last week at the G20 and then in Rome at two bad-tempered summits in recent days, the Americans and the British – in cahoots with the leaders of France, Spain and Italy – **sought** to press Merkel into bankrolling fiscal stimulus and bank **recapitalisation** policies that would cut the vulnerable eurozone countries' cost of borrowing.

"It **was** all wishful thinking or a political game," **said** a senior EU official of the ambush attempts. "There are substantial economic and political interests at play. Governments are spinning in their respective interests."

The pressure on Merkel may have backfired and reinforced German resistance to the ideas. The view in Berlin is that Hollande will have to back down amid the relative weakness of the French economy.

The blueprint **unveiled** on Tuesday calls for a eurozone political federation to be built over a decade entailing four stages. The details are thin and are to be fleshed out by the end of the year by the heads of four of the main European institutions, but the proposals – a response to the Greek drama that **erupted** 30 months ago and which has engulfed the EU into its most perilous crisis ever – mark the most ambitious European plan since agreement on the single currency **was reached** at Maastricht 20 years ago.

Tomorrow marks the start of what will be a long, exhausting, and bruising battle essentially pitting German-led integrationist pressure against French-led protection of sovereign authority and reluctance to cede immense powers over budgets and tax-and-spend policies to Brussels and a new eurozone finance ministry, proposals that also raise fundamental questions about democratic legitimacy in the EU.

To be **realised**, the "political union" would require a major legal overhaul, reopening EU treaties, endless quarrels, probably a new German constitution and perhaps a referendum in Britain and its departure from the EU.

"These decisions on deeper economic, financial and fiscal integration imply major changes to the way our citizens are governed and to the way their taxes are spent," **said** Barroso. "This crisis is the biggest threat to all that we have achieved through European construction over the last 60 years... A big leap forward is now needed."

The proposals, likely to expose fundamental splits over Europe's future, will do little to resolve the immediate debt and currency crisis. The hope is that the medium-term master plan will placate the financial markets by demonstrating political

²⁶ Putative should

resolve to defend the currency at all costs. The risk is that the leaders will appear so divided that the markets might step up their probing of the weaker bits of the eurozone, notably Spain and Italy.

Without a Franco-German accord, the prospects of a damaging summit in Brussels are high. Last week Hollande issued policy proposals for the summit, a growth and jobs pact whose details are anathema to Berlin – the issue of short-term shared eurozone debt leading to full pooled debt, common eurozone guarantees for bank deposits, protectionist measures favouring European manufacturers and bidders for public contracts over outsiders as well as direct eurozone recapitalisation of dodgy banks without increasing national debt levels.

The Germans feel under pressure, but Merkel will court big trouble at home if she yields. A pro-European commentator in Der Spiegel this week suggested she should sacrifice her political career²⁷ to save Europe and the currency.

There is little chance of that happening. But the German elite is deeply worried about Hollande's France, because of the impact it could have on the German economy's prospects battling the emerging might of China, India or Brazil.

Berlin's fear is that Europe can only be saved and a successful Europe re-established if the two core countries are in harness, that it cannot bear the burden alone, and that if the Franco-German dynamic dissipates, the German economy will be among the biggest victims of failure.

Berlin points to the widening gap in employment costs between Germany and France; a youth unemployment rate in France triple that of Germany; Hollande's first move in reducing the retirement age and France's overall loss of competitiveness over the past decade. It fears being dragged down as a result. The cautious hope is that Hollande will turn out or be forced to be France's Gerhard Schröder, the ex-German chancellor and, like Hollande, a social democrat who executed the economic, welfare, and structural reforms a decade ago that put Germany in its current strong shape.

Hollande heads a socialist party, however, that is a lot less "modernised" than Schröder's SPD or the Labour Party under Blair and which is eternally split over Europe. Hollande's foreign minister, Laurent Fabius, spearheaded the No campaign in the French referendum that sunk the European constitution in 2005.

And the crisis is throwing into sharp relief the basic divisions, particularly on the grand plan being fought over. A crisis that started financially on the EU's periphery, in Greece, Ireland, and Portugal, has now shifted politically to the union's heart, the Berlin-Paris axis.

France may balk at the blueprint being tabled, being deeply reluctant to surrender so much sovereign power to new eurozone authorities, while Germany will only accept the liability for others being thrust on it if the powers are federalised.

A senior EU diplomat intimately involved in the Franco-German dynamic for 20 years says, however, that Merkel and Hollande are condemned to forging a modus operandi and that the stakes are too big.

"Helmut Kohl and François Mitterrand were dreadful at the start. They hated each other. Gerhard Schröder and Jacques Chirac was the lowest I ever saw²⁸. It's always like this with France and Germany," he said.

"They always represent different positions and then they find a compromise that everyone else agrees with except the UK."

24 Aug 2012, The Guardian, page 28

Public opinion judges that Breivik is sane

The majority of Norwegians want the court to declare Anders Breivik sane when it delivers its verdict on Friday – coinciding with the wishes of the killer.

The Oslo district court will announce whether Breivik, who has admitted murdering 77 people in a killing spree on 22 July last year, should be held responsible and imprisoned for his crimes or whether he is insane and should be sent to a secure psychiatric institution for the rest of his life.

A survey conducted by public broadcaster NRK shows three in four Norwegians believe Breivik should be sent to prison. One in 10 believed the perpetrator of Norway's worst peacetime massacre could not be considered responsible for his actions.

Breivik has said if the court finds him insane it would be "a fate worse than death". The credibility of his rightwing ideology and claim to be protecting Norway from a Muslim takeover would be dismissed as the rantings of a madman.

Breivik's lawyers confirmed they would appeal against any ruling that declared him insane.

The five district court judges have been presented with two psychiatric evaluations that sharply contradict each other. A court-ordered assessment concluded he was a paranoid schizophrenic; a second report in early April ruled that he was not psychotic. Despite signs of narcissistic and anti-social personality disorder, it said Breivik was sufficiently sane to face a prison sentence.

The prosecutor, Svein Holden, has said any doubt must favour an insanity judgement²⁹. "In our opinion it is worse that a psychotic person is sentenced to preventative detention than a non-psychotic person is sentenced to compulsory mental healthcare," he said.

Experts have said, whether considered sane or not, Breivik will almost certainly never be freed. The maximum jail term in Norway is 21 years but can be extended if Breivik is still deemed a threat to society.

²⁷ Putative should

²⁸ Past tense used instead of present perfect (he is still alive, he can still see that)

²⁹ British spelling (-e-)

24 Aug 2012, The Guardian, page 28

Morsi pledges to curtail detention of journalists

Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi will exercise his legislative mandate to prohibit the detention of journalists, after a court on Thursday **remanded** into custody a newspaper editor standing trial for defaming him.

The court ruled that Islam Afifi, whose newspaper has been critical of Morsi and warned of dire consequences of Brotherhood rule in Egypt, should be detained until his next hearing in September³⁰. However, shortly after the ruling, the vice-president, Mahmoud Mekki, **told** the El-Badil newspaper that Morsi intends to pass a law to prohibit the detention of journalists in such cases, using legislative powers he possesses in the absence of parliament.

Afifi, the editor of Al-Dustour, is on trial for various charges, including "insulting the president", which is a crime in Egypt. He is also charged with spreading **rumours** that have disturbed the peace and harmed the public interest.

Other journalists also face similar charges related to insulting Morsi – and by extension the Muslim Brotherhood – in the press. Among them are two editors, Adel Hamouda of El-Fagr and Abdel-Halim Qandil of Sawt Al-Umma. A satellite-TV "shock jock", Tawfik Okasha, faces a different charge – of threatening on-air to kill Morsi.

The president's intention, however, has not spared Afifi, who has been sent to Torah prison. The case has raised concerns about press freedom. Advocacy group Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR) **condemned** Afifi's detention and called for the right to detain journalists on trial to be struck from the law.

It **pointed out** that under Egyptian law, journalists cannot be detained for publishing crimes with the exception of the charge of insulting the president, an exception kept by ousted president Hosni Mubarak.

EIPR lawyer Adel Ramadan said: "We **didn't expect** this shocking decision. There is already a decision to ban him from **travelling**. Why detain him as well?"

24 Aug 2012, The Guardian, page 28

Mourning memorials for shot South African miners

The families of 34 striking miners killed by police **were** among those who **mourned** as memorial services **were held** across South Africa for all those who have died in violence.

More than 1,000 people **attended** the memorial service the government **arranged** at the site of the shootings last week at the Lommin mine in Marikana.

Ubuntu Akumelisine, a relative of a miner killed in the confrontation, **said**: "I'd want everyone who **was involved** in this incident, including the mine managers, to be arrested, because a person's life is not worth money". Mungiswa Mphumza, a sister of a dead miner from Eastern Cape, **said**: "We ask that the dead rest in peace. There is nothing that we can do at the moment."

As relatives **were remembered** Jacob Zuma, South Africa's president, **called** on the nation to commemorate all victims of violence in the country.

The 34 miners **died** last Thursday when police **opened** fire on charging strikers. Another 10 people, including miners and police officers, had died days previously.

Zuma **said** the memorial day should be the opportunity for the nation to "mourn and promote a violence-free society". **The president did not attend any of the memorials, but on Wednesday demanded that mine companies provide decent homes and sanitation for miners**³¹. The Star newspaper **quoted** him singling out one mining house where he said, 666 workers **shared** four toilets and four showers.

Zuma **warned** that those who **did not comply** with the mining charter, which **required** adequate housing, **risked** losing their **licences**. But he **said** it **was** not a time for pointing fingers. "I won't judge the incident. The judicial commission of inquiry will do so," he **said** at a lecture in North West Province, location of the troubled platinum mines.

Additional memorial services **were held** in South Africa, including one arranged by the Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union.

24 Aug 2012, The Guardian, page 29

Live your passion...somewhere else. Rio threatens to evict artists for Olympics

A community of artists in a former confectionery factory in Rio de Janeiro have turned to lawyers, aerosol cans and *cachaça* (sugar-cane liquor) to overturn an eviction order from developers trying to **capitalise** on the regeneration of the city before the World Cup and Olympic Games.

Their campaign – one of several disputes triggered by the £21bn redevelopment plans for Rio – has drawn the attention of the mayor, Eduardo Paes, and led to questions about the city's priorities and potential as it moves into the international spotlight.

In the past three years, about 50 artists – including sculptors, painters, fashion designers and sound engineers – have created studios and offices in the Behring factory, which once **produced** chocolates and sweets but is now adorned with baths suspended from the ceiling by chains, factory equipment **transformed** into furniture and other installations.

Located in Rio's long-neglected port area, the 80-year-old building **offered** cheap rent and open space near the city **centre**. **But the property was recently auctioned**³² and the new owners, Syn Brazil, **told** residents they **had** 30 days to get out.

"We made something really nice here"³³, but now we are fighting a big monster called money," **said** Rodrigo Villas, a graffiti artist who hangs wooden birds from electric cables on the streets. "It's a shame. This place is unique in Rio."

The artists at Orestes 28 – the factory's address – have hired lawyers, lobbied the mayor's office and registered as a cultural **organisation**. Some plan to spray paint the building in protest. Others say the experience has brought them together.

Alexandre Rangel, a painter, sculptor and installation artist, **said**: "When we **received** the eviction notices, we **were** disorientated at first, but artists are political beings. We **got organised**. It has helped us draw closer together."

³⁰ Putative should

³¹ Subjunctive/indicative mood

³² Past tense used instead of present perfect (it happened recently)

³³ Past tense used instead of present perfect (it is still there)

Theirs is not the only conflict as Rio prepares for 2014 and 2016. Protesters have petitioned city hall against evictions on the site of the proposed Olympic Village. But the artists have a selling point.

Similar communities have sprung up in many old factories around the world. The Dashanzi 798 art district in Beijing was also threatened with demolition before the 2008 Olympics, but artists there successfully lobbied the authorities to make their community a cultural hub for the city. The residents of Orestes 28 are now trying to do the same.

Their campaign has been backed by the mayor, who has decreed the factory a site of historical and cultural importance. Washington Fajardo, a heritage official, said: "We hope to establish a new model in which the city hall owns the establishment while the artists collectively manage it."

The artists are still uneasy. Although the eviction was rescinded, they fear the mayor's promises may only last until forthcoming municipal elections. "We hope things are going in the right direction," said Vivian Caccuri, who led the wave of artists into the factory in 2009.

Brazil's art scene is thriving thanks to the country's economic boom and tax breaks for corporate sponsors. Banks, telecom firms, chambers of commerce and even the post office group Correios have art galleries. The most ambitious plan is for a vast art "Disneyland" that Bernardo Paz, an iron tycoon, wants to build around the Inhotim Cultural Institute in Minas Gerais state.

The infusion of cash has created opportunities for big Brazilian artists such as Hélio Oiticica, Cildo Meireles and Vik Muniz. But art experts say the organic, grass-roots, collaborative work at the Behring factory offers something rarely seen here before.

Afonso Luz, an art critic, says the Behring factory is important because it combines urban redevelopment, high value-added businesses and communal creativity: "This very special situation has created a new model of a creative economy for the country."

It ought to be an ideal time for new ideas. Demolition will begin next year. Long neglected, the docklands are now being rebranded as the "Marvellous Port" and upgraded. During the Olympics (slogan: "Live your passion"), it will become a base for teams, the press and spectators. With the city short of accommodation, it is expected to be the site of several new hotels. Cruise ships will be moored at the docks to provide extra beds. The area will get a new rail link and at least one new museum.

The artists have a front-seat view to watch the change. Each Saturday, many of them gather on the roof listening to jazz. How many more of these gatherings there will be is a matter of debate.

"The judge has removed the eviction notice but we don't know for how long," said Ana Ouro Preto, an artist who has had her second eviction this year. "My home in Copacabana is also going to be demolished so they can build a hotel for the Olympics," she said. "It's a 1929 art deco building. I don't think Brazil is very good at preservation."

Others were sanguine. "The modernisation and urban development here is similar to that seen in cities across the world," said Rangel. Everything happens fast because of the Olympics."

10.5 American newspapers

The Washington Times Daily (conservative)

13 Sep 2012, The Washington Times Daily, page A10

Afghanistan's sad toll barely noted

As troops die at rate of 1 a day, war is off radar of most civilians

It was another week at war in Afghanistan, another string of U.S. casualties and another collective shrug by a nation weary of a faraway conflict whose hallmark is its grinding inconclusiveness.

After nearly 11 years, many by now have grown numb to the sting of losing soldiers such as Pfc. Shane W. Cantu of Corunna, Mich. He died of shrapnel wounds in the remoteness of eastern Afghanistan, not far from the getaway route that Osama bin Laden took when U.S. forces invaded after Sept. 11, 2001, and began America's longest war. Cantu was 10 back then. Nearly every day, the Pentagon posts another formulaic death notice, each one brief and unadorned, revealing the barest of facts — name, age and military unit — but no words that might capture the meaning of the loss.

The death of Cantu, who joined the Italy-based 173rd Airborne Brigade on Sept. 11 last year and went to Afghanistan last month, was among five U.S. deaths announced this past week as the Democrats and Republicans wrapped up back-to-back presidential nominating conventions.

U.S. troops are still dying in Afghanistan at a pace that often doesn't register beyond their hometowns.

So far this year, the average is 31 a month, or one per day. National attention is drawn, briefly, to grim and arbitrary milestones such as the 1,000th and 2,000th war deaths.

But days, weeks and months pass with little focus by the general public or its political leaders on the individuals behind the statistics.

Each week at war has a certain sameness for those not fighting it, yet every week brings distinct pain and sorrow to families who learn that their son or daughter, brother or sister, father or mother was killed or wounded.

Cantu died Aug. 28, but the Pentagon did not publicly release his name until Sept. 5. He was memorialized by his paratrooper "sky soldier" comrades in Italy on Sept. 6 and honored in his hometown of Corunna. He would have turned 21 next month.

His roommate in Afghanistan, Pfc. Cameron Richards, 23, remembers Cantu as a larger than-life figure, a guy with an infectious smile who **took** pride in whipping up spaghetti, tacos and other dinners on his portable skillet. It **was** a knack he **attributed** to having grown up with five sisters with whom he **shared** family meal duties.

"He **was** the type of person you **wanted** to be around every day," Pfc. Richards **said** in a telephone interview Friday from the brigade's headquarters in Italy, where he **returned** after being wounded by shrapnel from a hand grenade two weeks before Cantu **was killed**.

"When he **was** in the room, you **knew** he **was** in the room. He'd be the loudest one laughing," he **added**. "He **impacted** everybody."

As the war drags on, it remains a faraway puzzle for many Americans.

Max Boot, a military historian and **defense**³⁴ analyst at the Council on Foreign Relations, has called Afghanistan the "Who Cares?" war.

"Few, it seems, do, except for service personnel and their families," he **wrote** recently. "It is almost as if the war isn't happening at all."

One measure of how far the war has receded into the background in America is that it **was not even mentioned** by Mitt Romney in his speech accepting the Republican presidential nomination on Aug. 30.

President Obama has pledged to end the main U.S. combat role in Afghanistan by the end of 2014, but current plans call for thousands of U.S. troops to remain long after that to train Afghans and hunt terrorists.

The war remains at the forefront, naturally, for members of the military such as Marine Lt. Gen. John Kelly, whose son, 2nd Lt. Robert M. Kelly, **was killed** by a roadside bomb in southern Afghanistan in November 2010.

"America as a whole today is certainly not at war, not as a country, not as a people," Gen. Kelly **said** in a speech Aug. 28 at the American Legion's national convention. Gen. Kelly is Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta's senior military assistant.

13 Sep 2012, The Washington Times Daily, page A12

Russia, China agree to resolution criticizing Iran

Possibility of nuclear armament development at issue

VIENNA, AUSTRIA | The U.S. and its Western allies have persuaded Russia and China to support a resolution critical of Iran's nuclear defiance in the intention of showing Israel that diplomacy is an alternative to military force in pressuring Tehran, diplomats said Wednesday.

The resolution, **which demands that Iran stop activities**³⁵ that could be used to make nuclear arms, cannot be enforced by the 35-nation board of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), even if approved by vote or consensus as expected Thursday.

But with Israel increasingly floating force as an alternative to failed international efforts to curtail suspected Iranian nuclear activities, the document is significant in seeking to show world-power resolve in pursuing a diplomatic solution to the standoff.

Israel views a nuclear-armed Iran as a mortal threat, citing Iran's persistent calls for the destruction of the Jewish state, its development of missiles capable of striking Israel, and Iranian support for Arab militant groups.

Tehran insists its nuclear **program** is for peaceful purposes only. But it refuses foreign offers of reactor fuel if it stops making its own through uranium enrichment — a process that worries the international community because it could be used to arm nuclear warheads, too.

Concerns also focus on IAEA suspicions that Iran has worked secretly on nuclear arms — allegations Iran dismisses as based on fabricated U.S. and Israeli intelligence.

With fears increasing about the possibility of an Israeli military attack and other diplomatic efforts on Iran deadlocked, diplomats told the Associated Press that a resolution supported by the six powers seeking to engage Tehran about its nuclear **program**³⁶ had become a priority discussed at the highest level.

The text **was agreed** on only after consultations involving Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and her counterparts in Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany, **said** the diplomats, who **demand**ed anonymity because the negotiating process **was** confidential.

While the four Western powers **had** no differences, it **was** unclear until Wednesday whether Russia and China — which Iran has relied on to blunt harsh U.N. and other sanctions — would agree to join in backing the resolution.

The diplomats **said** they **were** persuaded largely with the argument that a signal of big-power unity **had** to be sent to Israel.

A Russian diplomat **refused** Wednesday to discuss how the accord on the resolution **came** about.

Russia and China have been inconsistent in backing such Western efforts in the past. While joining in a critical resolution at an IAEA meeting in November, they **refused** to do so in June.

The current unity **came** at a price for the West, which **had** to settle for compromise language in the text of the resolution, made available to the AP outside the closed meeting.

While expressing "serious concern" over continued Iranian uranium enrichment in defiance of the U.N. Security Council, the six nations say they back the "inalienable right" of countries that have signed the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. That is a bow to arguments by Iran, an NPT signatory, that it has a right to enrich uranium.

The resolution "stresses" that the IAEA has not reported any nuclear material missing from Iran sites it is monitoring. Missing material could mean that Tehran is using it elsewhere for weapons purposes.

It only "notes" that the agency cannot conclude there is no hidden nuclear activity going on because of "lack of cooperation" by Iran on **agency requests that it be given greater powers**³⁷ to monitor the country.

13 Sep 2012, The Washington Times Daily, page B3

³⁴ American spelling (-se)

³⁵ Subjunctive mood – mandative subjunctive

³⁶ American spelling (-gram)

³⁷ Subjunctive mood – mandative subjunctive

'His middle name is Hussein'

Muslims believe Obama one of them

Several people who know Barack Obama well perceive him as Muslim. Most remarkably, his half-sister, Maya Soetoro-Ng, has stated: "My whole family **was** Muslim." Her whole family, obviously, includes her halfbrother, Barack.

In June 2006, President Obama **related** how, after a long religious evolution, he "**was** finally **able** to walk down the aisle of Trinity United Church of Christ on 95th Street in the Southside of Chicago one day and affirm my Christian faith" with an altar call. But when his pastor at Trinity United, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, **was asked** (by author Edward Klein in "The Amateur," Page 40), "**Did you convert Obama from Islam to Christianity**"³⁸ Mr. Wright **finessed** the question, whether out of ignorance or discretion, replying enigmatically: "That's hard to tell." Note that he **did not reject** out of hand the idea that Mr. Obama had been a Muslim.

Mr. Obama's 30-year-old half-brother, George Hussein Onyango Obama, **who met him twice**³⁹, **told** an interviewer in March 2009, "He may be behaving differently due to the position he is in, but on the inside, Barack Obama is Muslim."

More generally, Muslims cannot shake the sense that under his proclaimed Christian identity, Mr. Obama truly is one of them. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, prime minister of Turkey, has said Hussein is a Muslim name. Muslim discussions of Mr. Obama sometimes mention his middle name as a code, with no further comment needed. A conversation in Beirut, quoted in the Christian Science Monitor, captures the puzzlement. "He has to be good for Arabs because he is a Muslim," **observed** a grocer. "He's not a Muslim, he's a Christian," **replied** a customer. No, **said** the grocer, "He can't be a Christian. His middle name is Hussein." The name is proof positive. The American Muslim writer Asma Gull Hasan wrote in "My Muslim President Obama":

"I know President Obama is not Muslim, but I am tempted nevertheless to think that he is, as are most Muslims I know. In a very unscientific oral poll, ranging from family members to Muslim acquaintances, many of us feel ... that we have our first American Muslim president in Barack Hussein Obama. Since Election Day, I have been part of more and more conversations with Muslims in which it **was** either offhandedly agreed that Obama is Muslim or enthusiastically blurted out. In commenting on our new president, 'I have to support my fellow Muslim brother,' would slip out of my mouth before I **had** a chance to think twice. 'Well, I know he's not really Muslim,' I would quickly add. But if the person I **was talking** to **was** Muslim, they would say, 'yes, he is.'"

By way of explanation, Ms. Hasan mentions Mr. Obama's middle name. She concludes: "Most of the Muslims I know (me included) can't seem to accept that Obama is not Muslim."

If Muslims get these vibes, not surprisingly, so does the American public. Five polls in 2008-09 by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press **asked**, "Do you happen to know what Barack Obama's religion is?" They **found** a consistent 11 percent to 12 percent of registered American voters averring that he's really a Muslim, with much larger percentages among Republicans and evangelicals. This number **increased** to 18 percent in an August 2010 Pew survey. A March 2012 poll **found** about half the likely Republican voters in both Alabama and Mississippi **saw** Mr. Obama as a Muslim. In Pew's June-July 2012 survey, 17 percent **said** Mr. Obama is a Muslim and 31 percent **said** they **did not know** his religion; just 49 percent **identified** him as a Christian. This points to an even split between those who say Mr. Obama is a Christian and those who do not.

That those who see him as Muslim also overwhelmingly disapprove of his job performance points to a correlation in their minds between Muslim identity and a failed presidency. That such a substantial portion of the public persists in this view points to a bedrock of reluctance to take Mr. Obama at his word about being a Christian. This in turn reflects the widespread sense that Mr. Obama has played fast and loose with his biography.

The FISA amendments ensure that our intelligence officers don't have to gain **individualized** court approval — based on showing probable cause — to effectively and efficiently monitor foreign terrorists. Unlike the often controversial Patriot Act, the FISA amendments only pertain to intelligence efforts against foreigners in foreign lands. The civil liberties of Americans are protected in this act by requiring **individualized** court approval to target any Americans — regardless of whether they are here in America or overseas.

The world has changed. Threats that once **were** capable only of being posed by monolithic nation-states with advanced weapons are now spread across the globe by rogue states and terror cells on a mission to harm Americans. The same technological tools Americans use to create jobs and connect with one another are used by others to do harm to this nation. Widely available technology enables terrorists to change locations and communication devices faster than paperwork can be filled out and filed with the courts. **This new reality demands that our intelligence community have the flexibility** it needs to protect the American people, all within the parameters of proper oversight and constitutional protections.

Requiring **individualized**⁴⁰ court-approved search warrants for foreigners overseas is not only burdensome, it would hamstring our efforts. Then-Director of National Intelligence Adm. Mike McConnell **stated** that requiring such a warrant **resulted** in not collecting two-thirds of the foreign intelligence eligible for collection. Intelligence is the linchpin in protecting our military and homeland against foreign threats. Without accurate, reliable and timely intelligence, we would be less safe.

While the upcoming election casts an unfortunate partisan tint on almost every issue, I believe the House, Senate and White House can and should come together and pass a five-year extension of the FISA Amendment Act. Given support across the political spectrum, this may be one of the few opportunities for Washington to work together before November. The FISA process produces tremendous intelligence needed for our nation's security, has bipartisan support, and **fulfills**⁴¹ Congress' constitutional responsibility to protect and defend this nation. We owe it to the American people to act quickly.

18 Sep 2012, The Washington Times Daily, page A4

Obama in Ohio: Tough on China

Appeals to assembly-line workers with news on unfair-trade complaint

CINCINNATI | President Obama **used** a campaign stop in Ohio on Monday to take aim at China and Mitt Romney by announcing a trade complaint against China for **subsidizing** auto parts made for export and amplifying attacks on Mr. Romney's investments in companies that ship jobs overseas.

³⁸ Past tense used instead of present perfect tense (it has an effect on the present – he is either Muslim or Christian)

³⁹ Past tense used instead of present perfect tense (he is still alive, they can see each other again)

⁴⁰ American spelling (-ize)

⁴¹ American spelling (-ll)

As the president seeks to solidify his post-convention lead in the critical swing state with stops in Columbus and Cincinnati, his administration **asked** the World Trade Organization (WTO) to review up to \$1 billion worth of subsidies China **gave** to its own auto and auto parts industries between 2009 and 2011 and to accelerate a WTO investigation of Chinese levies on U.S.-made cars, a separate case the White House first **pursued** earlier this year.

"These are subsidies that directly harm working men and women on the assembly line in Ohio and Michigan and across the Midwest," Mr. Obama **said**. "It is not right. It is against the rules, and we will not let it stand."

In launching the new trade enforcement case against China, Mr. Obama is focusing on an economic issue that resonates with Ohio voters and has become a flash point in the campaign, with GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney repeatedly pledging to get tough with China on trade issues if elected.

Quickly responding, the government of China **announced** a new trade complaint against the United States, protesting anti-dumping measures against its exports, including kitchen appliances, magnets and paper.

Unlike Mr. Romney, Mr. Obama says he has plenty of experience standing up to China, filing more WTO complaints in one term than former President George W. Bush **did** in two terms. If Mr. Romney really cares about holding China accountable, Mr. Obama said Monday, he wouldn't continue to hold investments in companies that keep costs low by relying on Chinese factory workers and wouldn't support a tax plan Democrats say could encourage companies to outsource jobs overseas.

"Now, I understand my opponent has been running around Ohio claiming he's going to roll up his sleeves and take the fight to China," Mr. Obama **said** during his stop in Columbus. "But here's the thing: His experience has been owning companies that **were called** 'pioneers' in the business of outsourcing jobs to countries like China ... Ohio, you can't stand up to China when all you've done is send them our jobs."

In Ohio, the auto-parts industry directly employs 54,200 people, and the sector indirectly impacts 850,000 total jobs, or 12.4 percent of the economy, the White House **said**.

The administration's WTO action directly addresses criticism from Republicans and Mr. Romney, who regularly attacks Mr. Obama for failing to aggressively challenge China to abide by international trade laws. On Friday, while campaigning in Painesville, Ohio, Mr. Romney **said** he would **demand that China stop manipulating its currency or face tariffs**⁴².

Obama campaign and administration officials insist the action is not motivated by politics, pointing to a number of successful complaints the U.S. trade representative has filed with the WTO during Mr. Obama's tenure.

Obama campaign spokeswoman Jen Psaki **told** reporters on Air Force One that Mr. Romney **had** "a special kind of chutzpah that he is going to **criticize** the president on an issue that he has been such a strong advocate and fighter for."

The Romney campaign **called** the administration's trade complaints "a blatantly political move." The Romney camp **said** the move highlights Mr. Obama's "unwillingness to crack down on cheating China in Ohio and across the country," and only **happened** because Mr. Romney had focused attention on the issue.

"President Obama may think that announcing new trade cases less than two months from Election Day will distract from his record, but the American businesses and workers struggling on an uneven playing field know better," Mr. Romney said at the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce meeting in Los Angeles. "If I'd known all it **took** to get him to take action **was** to run an ad citing his inaction on China's cheating, I would have run one long ago."

Not sure whether President Barack Obama or Mitt Romney are stretching the truth? There's an app for that.

The newly released "SuperPAC App" uses audio recognition technology to instantly **recognize** political ads and inform voters whether the ads they are watching on television or the Internet have met the standards of an independent journalism group behind the tool. Users also can rate the ads.

The SuperPAC App, funded by the Knight Foundation, a nonprofit, nonpartisan group that uses technology to promote transparency and open government, is one of a growing number of apps tracking the political ads surrounding the election. The **program** is designed to recognize ads and provide the viewer contextual information — who **sponsored** the ad, how much they **paid** for it and where it's running.

"It helps voters cut through all the noise," **said** Dan Siegel, one of the founders of Glassy Media, the firm that **built** the app to combat the web of confusion spun by all the super PACs popping up. "It would be a nice outcome if it in any way **prevented**⁴³ politicians from lying in the future. Perhaps, they'll decide it's going to be harder for them to hide where their money comes from or tell bold face lies."

Glassy Media is a digital production company that **was hatched** in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Media Lab.

The iPhone app — it's not available on Android — **debuted** Aug. 22 as the top free news app in the Apple Store. **It also cracked the top 100 for all free apps**⁴⁴.

The creators of the SuperPAC App are considering expanding it to U.S. Senate and House elections, as well as elections in other countries, if it performs well in this presidential election.

"We've thought about applying this same concept, this same technology to other elections," Mr. Siegel **said**.

Several other political apps are similar to the SuperPAC App. "Ad Hawk," developed by the Sunlight Foundation, another nonprofit, nonpartisan open government group, has a similar app for the iPhone, and, unlike the SuperPAC App, it's also available for Android phones and can work on radio ads, as well.

Nimblebot, another Web company founded by MIT students, built "Reactvid.com," which marks different political ads as "true," "false," or "ambiguous."

The politically tuned apps are similar to musicbased apps like "Shazam" that tell users what songs they are listening to.

"This is information that, otherwise, might be too boring or time-consuming to find," Mr. Siegel said. "We're adding the bubble gum **flavor**⁴⁵ to the medicine, we're creating something that's fun to use, that's cool."

These political apps are hoping to bring more transparency to the era of super PAC politics.

"Super PACs are new ... and they're overwhelming and confusing and often frustrating, and we **wanted** to do something to address that," said Jennifer Hollett, co-founder at Glassy Media. "We hope that our app encourages people to tune in, instead of tune out."

⁴² Subjunctive mood – mandative subjunctive

⁴³ Past tense – hypothetical past

⁴⁴ Past tense used instead of present perfect (it has cracked the list, it is still there)

⁴⁵ American spelling (-or)

This is the first presidential campaign since the Supreme Court's landmark Citizens United decision, which **unleashed** restrictions on super PACs.

The groups, and the amount of cash they generate, have mushroomed since the 2010 ruling: The Federal Elections Commission lists 699 on its website.

OpenSecrets.org, another nonpartisan group promoting more transparency in government says super PACs have raised nearly \$350 million and spent more than \$240 million on ads in this cycle.

Restore Our Future, a group that supports the Romney campaign, has raised more than \$89 million, while Priorities USA Action, a group that supports the Obama campaign, has raised more than \$25 million. Mr. Romney has the backing of four of the top five super PACs.

"I thought it **was** shocking there was so much money going into the campaigns, even in a bad economy," Mr. Siegel **said**. "It's basically the size of a small stimulus package, essentially going into television ads."

The Washington Post (liberal)

6 Aug 2012, The Washington Post, page A2

White House struggles to reverse secrecy culture

Major transparency measures have stalled, FOIA analysis shows

In its first year, the Obama administration **vowed** an increase in transparency across government, including through the Freedom of Information Act, the proactive release of documents and the establishment of an agency to declassify more than 370 million pages of archived material.

Three years later, new evidence suggests that administration officials have struggled to overturn the long-standing culture of secrecy in Washington. Some of these high-profile transparency measures have stalled, and by some measures the government is keeping more secrets than before.

Media **organizations** and individuals requesting information under the FOIA last year **were** less likely to receive the material than in 2010 at 10 of the 15 Cabinet-level departments, according to a Washington Post analysis of annual reports of government agencies.

The federal government **was** more likely last year than in 2010 to use the act's exemptions to refuse information. And the government overall **had** a bigger backlog of requests at the end of 2011 than at the start, largely because of 30,000 more pending requests to the Department of Homeland Security.

The FOIA **went** into effect in 1967 to provide public access to undisclosed, unclassified federal government information. The law requires the information to be released unless the government determines that it can be withheld under one of nine exemptions.

The Post's analysis of the handling of FOIA requests comes as the administration and Congress are trying to exert new control over access to government information. A Senate committee last week **approved** legislation aimed at stopping leaks of classified information, and the administration has prosecuted six cases against government employees accused of misusing secret information.

The trends appear to run against the direction set out by the president in the earliest days of his government. On his first full day in office, Jan. 21, 2009, President Obama **issued** a memo on freedom of information, telling agencies: "The Freedom of Information Act should be administered with a clear presumption: In the face of doubt, openness prevails."

The early results **seemed** promising. In 2010, response rates to FOIA requests **increased** and the use of exemptions to refuse requests **fell**. Federal departments also **reduced** the backlog of pending requests.

Since then, the Post analysis shows, progress has stalled and, in the case of most departments, reversed in direction. The analysis **showed** that the number of requests denied in full due to exemptions **rose** more than 10 percent in 2011, to 25,636 from 22,834 the previous year.

Similarly, the pledge to declassify archived material has run into major delays. The National Declassification Center (NDC) **was established** by the president in December 2009 to review and declassify 371 million pages of material by December 2013.

In its progress report issued last month, the **center**⁴⁶ **said** it had completed the review process for 51.1 million pages, less than 14 percent of the total. Of that number, 41.8 million pages **were made** available to researchers and the public.

The **center's** director, Sheryl Senberger, **acknowledged** in an interview that it will have "issues" meeting the 2013 deadline. She **blamed** legal complexities and a lack of resources at some agencies.

"I don't like to admit defeat, so I really absolutely must not say that we will not meet the deadline," she **said**. "I would prefer to say that we're going to show great progress, and we will absolutely accomplish certain steps in our progress. But if a person only associates accomplishment of the goal with all 372 million pages made available to the public, no."

Senberger **said** one reason for the delay is funding. Spending last year on declassification across the government, excluding intelligence agencies, **was** \$52.8 million, according to the Information Security Oversight Office, the agency that oversees the classification system. That **was** less than 1 percent of the budget for classifying material, which **rose**⁴⁷ 12 percent year-over-year, to \$11.36 billion.

Although the declassification effort appears certain to miss its deadline, the volume of material being classified **jumped** 20 percent in 2011. The oversight office **cited** better record-keeping as a reason for the recent increases.

Steven Aftergood, director of the Project on Government Secrecy at the Federation of American Scientists, **said** The Post's FOIA analysis shows that the administration "can be credited or blamed for agency performance only up to a certain point, and no further."

"It's all part of a larger picture that warrants attention," he **said**. "The Ndc piece of it is particularly noteworthy as they **were assigned** a job by the president, and it looks like they're not going to complete it, which is a shocking development, or it ought to be."

⁴⁶ American spelling (-er)

⁴⁷ Past tense – habitual past

Others **were** more critical. Hina Shamsi, director of the National Security Project for the American Civil Liberties Union, said the administration has failed to live up to its promises to deliver transparent government.

"I think that in the first months, President Obama and his administration **took** some very important and historic steps to provide transparency," she said. "The reality is that governments generally have a tendency to secrecy, and after initially pledging a new era of transparency, the Obama administration has backtracked in critically important areas. . . . I think it has sent a message through government into the country that is quite disturbing about valuing secrecy in the national security context over transparency."

Shamsi added: "We **recognize** that there are genuine instances in which secrecy is both legitimate and necessary. . . . But claims that are too broad in their sweep undermine the very system itself."

6 Aug 2012, The Washington Post, page A3

NASA braces for landing of Mars rover

pasadena, calif. — After a journey of 354 million miles to the outskirts of Mars, the Curiosity rover and its spacecraft **were speeding up** and **coming under** the influence of the planet's gravity as it **prepared** for a dramatic landing early Monday.

NASA officials **said** early Sunday afternoon that the spacecraft **was** about 100,000 miles from Mars and **remained** in ideal shape. They also **said** its position in relation to the point selected to enter the atmosphere also **was** on target. The landing is one of the riskiest ever tried, with final descent that starts at 13,200 mph and ends after what NASA officials call "seven minutes of terror."

The landing was scheduled for 1:31 a.m.⁴⁸, and officials **said** they could know almost immediately if the rover **was** safely on the ground. That tracking would come from the Odyssey orbiter circling Mars, if the spacecraft **was** able to get to the right location at the right time.

If not, the waiting time for a final answer on whether the rover **was** safely on the surface could range from two to eight hours. If no signal arrives from Curiosity via three Mars orbiters and the Deep Space Network after 18 hours, NASA officials **said**, then they would start to worry about its safety.

The final descent was⁴⁹ **pre-programmed**⁵⁰ and the army of engineers and scientists at the Jet Propulsion Lab's Mission Control **had** no control over it. "Our position will be identical to anyone at home," said Adam Steltzner, lead of the Entry, Descent and Landing (EDL) team. "We're all along for the ride."

Speaking for the team as a whole, Steltzner **said** they **were** "Rationally confident, emotionally terrified and ready for EDL."

6 Aug 2012, The Washington Post, page A7

A symbol of hope leads to frustration in Pakistan, India

gah, pakistan — Dust and dung coat the floor of the never-opened public health **center**. Birds nest in the breezeway of the never-used boys' high school. **And staff never came**⁵¹ to run the new women's vocational **center**.

The government-designated "model village" of Gah, in the parched croplands of Punjab province, **was supposed** to serve as a thriving symbol of unity between Pakistan and India. Today it feels more like a ghost town, an embodiment of fitful, frequently stalled efforts by the two nations to settle their historical disputes.

Gah, a farming community of 300 squat, mud-brick homes about 60 miles southwest of Islamabad, is remarkable only as the birthplace of Manmohan Singh, the prime minister of India. Last month, Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari **invited** Singh to visit Gah, in the latest round of so called "soft diplomacy" between the nuclear-armed countries.

The offer comes as their relationship is improving slightly, at least on trade matters. India's decision last week to allow investments from Pakistani citizens and companies **was taken** as another sign of progress, but there has been no lowering of the guard militarily by either side.

This is Pakistan's second such goodwill invitation to Singh. He had planned to come several years ago at the request of then-military ruler Pervez Musharraf, who embraced a peace process with India in 2004, when Singh **assumed** office.

Under Musharraf, money **flowed** into Gah from the Punjab provincial government that **was dominated** by Musharraf's party, funding roads, water projects and social service facilities. Pakistan **permitted** a team of Indian technicians from an energy institute to come to Gah to install solar-powered street lamps, lighting for homes and a hot-water system for the village mosque.

Then Singh's visit **was scrubbed**, amid the political turmoil in 2007 that **led** to Musharraf's ouster in 2008. The attacks on Mumbai that November — which India **blamed** on Pakistan-sanctioned militants — severely **strained** a bilateral relationship already burdened by old enmities and suspicions.

Diplomats **suspended** regular talks on territorial disputes, including the central one of Kashmir, the Muslim majority Himalayan region over which India and Pakistan have gone to war three times since both nations **became** independent from Britain 65 years ago.

Funds for Gah's projects were cut. Already-constructed schools and **other facilities were never staffed**⁵².

In the impoverished village, news of another invitation to Singh **revived** hopes and lingering disappointments.

"We resent that there **was** no follow through," **said** Ghulam Murtaza, a 38-year-old primary school teacher, standing outside the shuttered health clinic. "As a result, you see nothing here, and it hurts the poor people."

His family **donated** land for the site of the boys' high school, he said, when the Punjab government **asked** the community for help. **"We kept our promises"**⁵³, and they have not. It's all been a waste."

⁴⁸ Past tense used instead of present perfect (it was prepared in the past and it affects the present)

⁴⁹ Past tense used instead of present perfect (it was prepared in the past and it affects the present)

⁵⁰ British spelling in the American newspapers

⁵¹ Past tense used instead of present perfect (the centre is still standing, someone might still come)

⁵² Past tense used instead of present perfect (the facility is still standing, someone might still come)

⁵³ Past tense used instead of present perfect (the promise is still kept, the high school is on the donated land)

To Abdul Khaliq, 51, a village leader who has long pushed for economic development, a visit by Singh would highlight a yearning among ordinary Pakistanis: “We very much want peace,” he **said**. “We believe that both countries need to sit together to resolve the issues, to spend more on the development side, not the **defense** side.”

Gah’s turn in the limelight **started** as soon as Singh **became** prime minister. His Pakistani counterpart, Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain, **bestowed** model village status on Gah and **directed that its primary school be renamed after Singh**⁵⁴, who had been a student there for several years. Former classmates **wrote** him congratulatory letters.

Today the locals treat with totemic reverence the original class register, which shows that Singh, the son of a merchant, **entered** first grade as pupil number 187 on April 17, 1937, and **stayed** through the fourth grade.

His grades steadily **improved**, the registers show. The future Indian leader, who holds a doctorate in economics and **won** notice as India’s reformist finance minister, **studied** math, geography and Urdu, the most common language in what would become Pakistan.

Singh’s family is Sikh. They **migrated** to the Indian Punjab in 1947, when the British-ruled subcontinent **was cleaved** into two nations.

Zardari has **proposed that Singh come to Pakistan**⁵⁵ in November, around the birthday of a revered Sikh saint. He **told** Singh in a letter that the occasion would “reinforce our mutual desire to promote inter-faith and inter-religious harmony.”

Zardari **was following up** on an overture he **made** to Singh in April, when the Pakistani president **went** to India on a pilgrimage to a Sufi saint’s shrine.

That visit seems to have played well in Gah, where people talk of a peaceful pre-partition coexistence among Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims. “It **was** a better time,” **said** Murtaza, whose father, Muhammad, now aged and ill, **was** a schoolmate of Singh’s.

“There was no difference of religion or any other things,” Murtaza **said**, citing his father’s recollections. “Children **played** together and **went** to each other’s houses. There **was** no discrimination. There **was** coeducation.”

Whether Singh will again walk the narrow streets of his childhood village depends on various unpredictable factors. Indian authorities are keenly monitoring the political situation in Pakistan, where **the Supreme Court recently disqualified a prime minister from office for contempt of court**⁵⁶ and is on course to oust his successor, too.

Amid such uncertainty, New Delhi is reluctant to make any formal announcement about the proposed Singh visit, not wanting to see a replay of the situation with Musharraf.

Indian Foreign Minister S.M. Krishna is scheduled to visit Islamabad for talks in September. One territorial dispute believed close to resolution involves Sir Creek, a 60-mile-long strip of water that opens into the Arabian Sea. It divides a region of the Indian state of Gujarat and the Sindh province of Pakistan.

Another agreement may be near on **liberalized** visa policies that would enable businessmen from both countries to travel more freely across the border.

“Getting a business visa is a cumbersome procedure — you have to travel to Delhi, get all kinds of letters from Pakistan, get city-specific permits. And then you have to report at the police station every time you enter and exit a Pakistani city,” **said** Rajdeep Uppal, vice president of the Amritsar Exporters Chambers of Commerce, an Indian city on the border, **said** this spring.

“We have been demanding changes for many years,” **said** Uppal, who exports vegetables and spices and imports cement from Pakistan. “But now it appears that the two governments mean business. They have gone beyond merely talking about it.”

He **spoke** in anticipation of both nations’ home secretaries **formalizing** the pact in Islamabad in May, but it never **happened**. Pakistan **postponed** the deal, citing the need for more deliberations at a “political level.”

Another impediment to improved ties is Mumbai — specifically, Pakistan’s continued refusal to accept evidence that India has developed against the alleged plotters of the three-day massacre that **killed** 166 people. Pakistani officials also have refused to jail Hafiz Mohammad Saeed, founder of Lashkar-i-Taiba, the militant group that the United States and India blame for the Mumbai attacks.

In Gah, where electricity **arrived** only in 1998, such disputes take on less importance than basic socioeconomic concerns. The village needs doctors. Two new high schools — one for boys and one for girls — sit empty, awaiting teachers.

But Ghulam Murtaza **said** he no longer can count on his country’s leaders to care. He looks to India — and to a native son of Gah.

“If Prime Minister Singh could visit, that would make a difference,” he **said**. “The people here could tell him of our problems. That is our only hope.” Shaiq Hussain in Islamabad and Rama Lakshmi in New Delhi **contributed** to this report.

31 Aug 2012, The Washington Post, page A16

Syria said to be holding American journalist

American freelance journalist Austin Tice, who has been unaccounted for in Syria for more than two weeks, has been captured and is being held in Syrian government custody, according to people familiar with the matter, including a senior diplomat.

Tice, 31, **contributed** stories to The Washington Post, McClatchy Newspapers and other publications this summer after crossing into Syria in May. His reports **offered** glimpses into conditions on the ground in areas where the fighting was fast intensifying.

The Georgetown law school student and former U.S. Marine Corps infantry officer has not been heard from since mid-August, when he **told** friends and family members that he **intended**⁵⁷ to leave Syria.

In an appearance on a Czech television station Monday, the Czech ambassador to Syria, Eva Filipi, **said** of Tice that “our sources report that he is alive and that he **was** detained by government forces on the outskirts of Damascus, where the rebels **were fighting** government troops.”

⁵⁴ Subjunctive mood – mandative subjunctive

⁵⁵ Subjunctive mood – mandative subjunctive

⁵⁶ Past tense used instead of present perfect (it happened recently)

⁵⁷ Past tense – indirect speech

The Czech Embassy has been responsible for U.S. interests in Syria since the U.S. Embassy **was** shuttered in February amid security concerns. Filipi **said** her staff would continue to seek information about Tice's whereabouts and welfare in the coming days.

Her account has been corroborated by others who are familiar with Tice's whereabouts, and who **said** he had been detained near the Damascus suburb of Darayya.

The Syrian government has not responded to official inquiries about Tice, according to the U.S. State Department. A Syrian official in Washington **declined** to comment Friday on the Czech ambassador's remarks.

Tice's family on Thursday **called** for him to be released, as did The Post and McClatchy.

"Austin is our precious son, and we beseech the Syrian government to treat him well and return him safely to us as soon as possible," Tice's parents, Marc and Debra, **said** in a statement.

"We're investigating reports that Austin Tice is in the custody of Syrian authorities," Marcus Brauchli, The Post's executive editor, **said** in a statement. "If the reports are true, we urge these authorities to release him promptly, unharmed. Journalists should never be detained for doing their work, even — and especially — in difficult circumstances."

Anders Gyllenhaal, McClatchy's vice president for news, **said** Tice "is a widely respected and dedicated journalist. If he is in fact being held by the Syrian government, we would expect that he is being well cared for and that he will be quickly released."

As fighting between troops loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and rebels has intensified in recent months, reporting in Syria has become increasingly perilous. Tice **entered** the country at the Turkish border, a route many journalists use because the Syrian government issues few visas for journalists who wish to cover the conflict.

Ten journalists have been killed since the uprising in Syria **began** in the spring of 2011, including five foreigners, according to the advocacy **organization** Reporters Without Borders.

At least 30 Syrian citizen journalists have also died since the start of the conflict. More than 17,000 people — most of them civilians — have died in the Syrian civil war, according to the United Nations.

Two journalists with al-Hurra TV — Palestinian reporter Bashar Fahmi and his Turkish cameraman Cuneyt Unal — **disappeared** on Aug. 20 in Aleppo. **Unal recently appeared on a pro-Syrian government television channel**⁵⁸, apparently under coercion.

Reporters Without Borders on Thursday called for Tice's prompt release and **demand[ed] that all journalists who have been detained or kidnapped be freed immediately**⁵⁹.

A number of other foreigners, including at least one additional American, have been held in Syrian custody, according to people familiar with the matter in Damascus and outside Syria who asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the topic. The names of the detained individuals have not been released, and it could not be determined whether they remain in Syrian captivity.

The State Department **said** Thursday that it would continue to work through the Czech government to obtain information about Tice's welfare and whereabouts.

The USA Today (centric)

6 Sep 2012, USA TODAY International Edition, page A2

China pushes U.S. neutrality in Asia

Clinton on tour to 'calm the waters'

BEIJING — China on Tuesday **pressed** the United States to keep out of its dispute with Asian **neighbors** over who controls the vast South China Sea, as Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton **arrived** here as part of a tour of the region.

Clinton **arrived** here from Indonesia, where several Asian nations **asked** for U. S. help in countering aggressive moves by China to claim the more than 1 million square miles of the South China Sea and control its energy deposits.

She urged the states — including allies Thailand and the Philippines — to present a united front to the Chinese to "calm the waters." She **reiterated** that President Obama has taken no position on China's claims but **said** the matter should be resolved "without coercion, without intimidation and certainly without the use of force."

The Chinese foreign ministry **said** it **hoped** that the United States would maintain that position.

"We hope the U. S. side will keep its commitment and make efforts that help, rather than harm, regional peace," Foreign Ministry official Hong Lei **said**. "China, like all other countries in the world, has an obligation to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity."

Clinton **made** her remarks in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia, before a gathering of the Association of Southeast Asian Nation.

She **planned** to meet today with Chinese officials.

China says its territory extends throughout the South China Sea, even within the internationally **recognized** maritime borders of other nations. Its military boats have engaged in confrontations with the navies of the Philippines and Japan over islands claimed by others.

Upon Clinton's arrival in Beijing, the Chinese official media **lambasted** Clinton and the USA for interfering with China's aims.

"Many Chinese people do not like Hillary" **said** an editorial in the Global Times, a newspaper run by the Communist Party. The newspaper **stated** that the United States aims to maintain its "world hegemony" partly by restricting China's rise.

China's state news agency **Xinhua warned that U. S. politicians "who preposterously fancy they could do gold digging in China and rein in China's rise simultaneously, should remember the old saying"**⁶⁰ that no one can have his cake and eat it too."

"The United States should stop its role as a sneaky troublemaker sitting behind some nations in the region and pulling strings," it **said**.

⁵⁸ Past tense used instead of present perfect (it happened recently)

⁵⁹ Subjunctive mood – mandative subjunctive

⁶⁰ Putative should

The Obama administration supports the promotion of a regionally endorsed code of conduct that all claimants should observe regarding territorial claims. China, however, wants any territorial disputes to be resolved between it and individual countries.

Yan Xuetong, a scholar at Qinghua University in Beijing, **said** both sides seek conciliation, but any reduction in tensions will be temporary in China.

“China- U. S. relations have deteriorated, not improved,” under Obama, he **said**. The president’s announced plan to “pivot” U. S. focus toward the Asia Pacific after years of emphasis on Iraq and Afghanistan, “tries to unite more countries in this region toward the American side and isolate China.”

17 Sep 2012, USA TODAY International Edition, page 3A

Ex-ambassadors point to slow response

Say security lapse should be investigated

As violence outside U. S. embassies **spread** to new Arab capitals Thursday, two former U. S. ambassadors **said** the slow response by Egyptian security officials in Cairo on Tuesday points to a security lapse that warrants investigation.

Tear gas **was used** on protesters outside the U. S. embassy in Cairo on Thursday while anti- American demonstrators in Yemen’s capital of Sanaa **battled** police outside the U. S. Embassy, allow whom were angered over an anti-Muslim film **produced** in the USA.

The short video called Innocence of Muslims **posted** on YouTube depicts Islam’s prophet Mohammed as a fraud and a **womanizer**.

“These demonstrators **seemed** to be running amok for a while” before the Cairo embassy wall **was breached**, **said** Tom McDonald, ambassador to Zimbabwe in 1998, when U. S. embassies in nearby Kenya and Tanzania **were bombed**. “It begs the question, where **were** the Egyptian security forces that by law and treaty **were supposed** to provide security?”

When calls for help are not answered, “It could be either **disorganization** (in the host country) or a decision not to provide it,” **said** Robert Jordan, ambassador to Saudi Arabia in 2003 when three Western compounds **were bombed** in Riyadh.

The State Department **declined** to provide more detail about when U. S. diplomats in Egypt and Libya **asked** for assistance and when it **arrived**. The FBI is investigating rampages in Yemen and Libya, the Justice Department **said**.

Killed in an attack on the U. S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, **were** Ambassador Chris Stevens, an official and two members of the embassy security team.

House Intelligence Committee Chairman Mike Rogers, R- Mich., **said** Thursday that the attack in Libya **took** American officials by surprise and that there **was** no advance information that the consulate **was** a target. Rogers **said** the timing, tactics and heavily armed gunmen **bore** all the hallmarks of al- Qaeda.

The attack **appeared** to be “clearly planned and coordinated” to take place on the anniversary of the 9/ 11 terrorist attacks, he **said**.

State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland **said** security officers **evaluated** threats in Benghazi prior to the 9/ 11 anniversary “and we **determined** that the security at Benghazi **was** appropriate for what we **knew**.”

Wanis el- Sharef, eastern Libya’s deputy interior minister, **said** Thursday the attackers in Benghazi **used** the protests against the film as cover for their attack. He **said** an unspecified number of militants suspected of taking part in the attack have been arrested.

In Benghazi, Libyan guards **were**⁶¹ clearly overwhelmed by the heavily armed militants who **confronted** them, but Libyan government forces **arrived**⁶² later that night and **fought** to regain control of consulate compound. The government response in Libya “**was** a lot different” than in Egypt, “and they abjectly **apologized**” afterward, Jordan says.

Meanwhile, in Sanaa on Thursday morning, black smoke **billowed up** from burning SUV inside the U. S. Embassy compound. Hundreds of angry demonstrators **tried** to storm the building, chanting “death to America.” Protesters **marched** on the embassy from three sides before being blocked by Yemeni security forces. Some demonstrators **were** able to breach the security cordon.

“They **brought** this on themselves,” Abdullah Rahman Safi **shouted** above the sound of gunfire. “We want to close the American Embassy for this insult on prophet Mohammed.”

Egyptian protesters **clashed** Thursday with police near the U. S. Embassy in Cairo for the third day. Police **used** tear gas to disperse the protesters and the two sides **pelted** each other with rocks. But unlike Tuesday, the police **kept** the protesters away from the embassy’s compound.

The protests **were taking** place around the Tahrir Square area — the heart of last year’s revolution that led to the ouster of dictator Hosni Mubarak and close to the U. S. Embassy.

Protesters **were** initially primarily hard-line Muslims, but since Wednesday evening the composition of the crowd **seemed** to change and police **battled** young men aligned with a group called “Ultras”— composed of soccer fans who are growing more political.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton **sharpened** her criticism of the film Thursday, calling it “disgusting and reprehensible” and a cynical attempt to offend people for their religious beliefs. But Clinton **said** the U. S. would never stop Americans from expressing their views, no matter how distasteful.

21 Sep 2012, USA TODAY International Edition, page 2A

Afghan forces ‘still need help’ under the current scenario

“Over the last few years there has been tremendous progress in the Afghan National Security Forces,” he says. “But when it comes to logistics (supplies and support for Afghan troops), intelligence gathering and decision-making, they still need help.”

Even so, the help will be diminishing at a critical moment in the counterinsurgency strategy as the coalition moves to dislodge Taliban strongholds in eastern Afghanistan. A withdrawal of 30,000 troops ordered by President Obama will be complete in October, reducing troop strength from a peak of nearly 103,000 last year to 68,000.

⁶¹ Past tense – state past

⁶² Past tense – event past

The military challenge presents just one of many problems in a country plagued by corruption and with a long history of frustrating foreign forces. Indeed, some experts suggest the job — winning, however defined — cannot be completed given the myriad hurdles and other issues, such as neighboring Pakistan's support for the insurgency.

The United States should "recognize the limits of its power," says George Friedman, who heads the private intelligence firm Stratfor and author of *The Next Decade*, a book that lays out where conflicts might occur.

"U. S. strategic interest in Afghanistan has been achieved. It's disrupted al-Qaeda in that country, and it needs to withdraw." TWO VERY DIFFERENT FORCES Combat Outpost Kalagush is in Nuristan province in eastern Afghanistan on the border with Pakistan's Northwest Frontier, the one permanent U. S. base in the province.

Life here is not easy. To escape the scorching summer sun, Afghan soldiers often rest in the shade under barracks propped upon cinder blocks. Fresh water for drinking, cooking and bathing is sometimes scarce.

"We are Afghan. We can deal with all kinds of difficulties," says Col. Sher Khan, the new commander at Kalagush.

The Taliban bulked up its presence in the mountains here after U. S. troops withdrew years ago a mid deadly attacks on two outposts that drew constant fire. The outpost is divided: U. S. forces are on one side and Afghans on the other. American soldiers have hot showers, good food and air-conditioned barracks. Afghan soldiers are cramped into metal storage containers turned into sleeping quarters.

On this day, U. S. adviser teams are training Afghan soldiers to take the lead in military operations. Capt. Marcus Morgan, an American adviser at Kalagush, sees progress. He says Afghan commanders have shown initiative and leadership in planning and executing missions, noting that Afghan forces sometimes patrol without U. S. backing.

"They are completely in the lead outside the wire," Morgan says.

But Afghans going it alone? That's another issue. "If they get into a fire fight and can't handle it on their own, they can call on us."

In three months, no one will be there to answer. All U. S. troops at Kalagush are to leave the base by the end of the year.

Khan says what his men really will miss is U. S. firepower and aircraft, which he says may not be forth coming under current withdrawal plans. They can handle the ground fighting, Khan says, but need the U. S. military to come to their aid when things get out of hand. If not, he says, they will likely be overwhelmed by attackers.

"Our soldiers are very well- trained, but we need the right weapons to defend this area," he says. "There are times we'll need to drop troops behind enemy lines, and we'll need air support."

Some in the international coalition suggest that an accommodation must be made eventually for the Taliban to share power with the U. S.- backed President Hamid Karzai. But many Afghan soldiers do not see it that way.

The Taliban is a clerical movement that rose up during Afghan civil wars in the 1990s, and many current Afghan military officers remember life under its rule. A harsh brand of Islam was imposed on Afghans. Its adherents demanded men wear beards⁶³ and denied schooling for women. Girls could be married off at age 9. Homosexuals faced the death penalty.

The Taliban banned music, alcohol and even kite flying. Those who disobeyed were subject to summary execution. Amnesty International and others condemned the Taliban's reign, but the regime was in little danger until it refused to turn over Osama bin Laden to the United States. ' YOU CAN'T WHITEWASH IT' The Pentagon says its counterinsurgency strategy will succeed, and that the withdrawal of allied forces will not allow Afghanistan to once again become a base for the export of Islamic terrorism that it was under the Taliban.

"The stakes are very high," U. S. Gen. John Allen, the top commander in Afghanistan, said recently. "The fact that we were attacked on the 11th of September (2001) is a direct line relationship between what happened on that day and what could happen again if we don't get this right."

Recent Taliban attacks have provided fodder for critics of the Obama administration's position that the country has been sufficiently pacified to pave the way for an exit.

Sen. John McCain, R- Ariz., complains that Obama is pulling out for political reasons and jeopardizing eventual victory against a potent enemy. Obama's Republican rival for the presidency, Mitt Romney, says the president was "misguided" for announcing a withdrawal date to the enemy.

The president defends today's strategy, arguing repeatedly that he is winding down the war "responsibly" and believes the Afghans can handle security themselves.

Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta said the green-on-blue attacks represent the "last gasp" of the Taliban. But Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the attacks spell trouble for U. S. aims.

"You can't whitewash it. We can't convince ourselves that we just have to work harder to get through it. Something has to change," Dempsey told Armed Forces Press Service on Sunday.

Anthony Cordesman, an Afghanistan expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, does not see a "clear transition plan" to the Afghans that will work. He says the current strategy could give the Taliban an opening to take over and resume the kinds of terror activities that prompted the U. S.- led invasion.

"I think what you may see is a whole bunch of localized power struggles," Cordesman says. "Where it gets to be dangerous is when you have rival warlords with enough power to take over larger areas."

The eastern province of Khost is a haven of the Haqqani network, a Pakistan- based Muslim terror group that along with other militant groups aligned with the Taliban have been building forces here for years and in Paktika, Ghazni, Kunar and Wardak provinces.

Adil, the Afghan army colonel, insists his men can hold off the Taliban in Nangalam. But the narrow road connecting Nangalam to points of supply is riddled with buried mines and often controlled by Taliban checkpoints. He says he needs U. S. air support to safely deliver supplies such as food and ammunition.

"A lot of people in this area are helping them (militant groups)," Adil says.

Adil says he will be at a great disadvantage if U. S. helicopters are no longer circling during fire fights. And removal of U. S. high-tech capacity means they can't keep up scans of the night landscape to spot impending assaults on their remote base here.

"One day we might get hit with 10 mortars, the next day only two or three, which for us would be a good day," he says.

The U. S. military recognizes the strain on the Afghan army as it make the transition from working with the U. S. forces to replacing them.

⁶³ Subjunctive/indicative mood

The strategy, according to Lt. Col. Jay Bullock, who leads the U. S. security adviser team at Nangalam, is to “try to find simple Afghan solutions” to the challenges they’ll face once U. S. forces leave so they “can learn and grow on them.”

The U. S. advisers are training Afghan soldiers to fire heavy artillery left behind by the Soviets, who **invaded** Afghanistan in the 1980s and **lost** thousands of troops in a nearly decade-long conflict. So far, the training is progressing slowly but steadily, the advisers say.

Sgt. Zaren, who like many Afghans here goes by one name, studies maps of the area around the base to calculate distances for effective fire.

“I just want to be able to fire the artillery to keep the Taliban away,” Zaren says.

Maj. Christopher Thomas, spokesman for the 4th Brigade Combat Team 4th Infantry Division, says that the shortcomings of the Afghan forces in the east is a real concern. But, “there have been real improvements” in the Afghans’ ability to be a self-sustaining fighting force.

“Right now the focus is putting the Afghans in the lead,” Thomas says. “Let them get a bloody nose, but don’t let them get a broken nose.”

Capt. Hugh Miller, who **fought** along the Pech River during a 2009 deployment, says that if Afghan forces here can control the supply lines and provide effective firepower, they should be able to keep the enemy under control.

“Those are the two things that if they can get good at, we don’t need to be here,” Miller says.

Majidyar agrees with Miller’s assessment but says there is something more that the Afghans must do that they have yet to do alone: root out and destroy militant havens.

“They (Afghan forces) aren’t trained to do that, not equipped to do that and don’t have the ability to do that,” Majidyar says.

Mountain ranges here are full of caves and small villages where the Taliban and other groups stage ambushes on coalition forces. U. S. helicopters fly in and destroy militant havens.

The possibility of losing American backing worries some Afghan villagers.

Haji Noor Ullah, an elder from the village of Nangalam in the Pech River Valley, says facing the Taliban unassisted is a daunting prospect. He acknowledges that many Afghans here support the Taliban, but the many who do not might have to fall in line or risk violence. After all, that’s been the model in years past.

“We will face a lot of troubles in the future,” he said of the Taliban. “This is a very dangerous region.”

There have been few serious attacks on Kalagush since the current unit of Americans **arrived** here in the spring, says the company commander, Capt. Adam Marsh. He agrees that the lull is “unusual” given the area’s reputation for a heavy presence of militants.

“It’s possible that they are just waiting for us to leave,” he says.

11 Oct 2012, USA TODAY International Edition, page 3A

Despite thefts, no new Medicare IDs

More than a quarter million Medicare beneficiaries are victims of identity theft and hampered in getting health care benefits because the government won’t issue new IDs, according to an investigation report released today.

Medicare officials say it’s too expensive and too many agencies are involved to reissue those numbers to patients **victimized** by identity theft — about 284,000 beneficiaries, according to a report by the Department of Health and Human Service’s inspector general.

Beneficiary numbers are directly connected to a patient’s Social Security number, and the government is unable to create a new Social Security number for a patient whose Medicare identity has been stolen, according to the report, which **was obtained** by USATODAY.

And beneficiaries can do little more than report abuse of their beneficiary numbers because the government does not provide them with updates about investigations or amend their records with correct billing information. That, investigators say, slows down access to care.

The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) “should mitigate **the damage of medical identity theft by ensuring that beneficiaries retain their access to services**”⁶⁴ if their Medicare numbers have been misused by others,” the report states.

Investigators suggested that the CMS, which administers Medicare, place an indicator in breached records⁶⁵ or records known to have been used fraudulently so claims processors know when a legitimate claim should go through. The agency **agreed** to consider that suggestion, the report **said**.

The report also **said** the government should find a way to issue new numbers, even if it means moving away from using Social Security numbers.

⁶⁴ Subjunctive/indicative mood

⁶⁵ Subjunctive/indicative mood